



THE NEWSPAPER FOR MAIDSTONE, MALLING, LARKFIELD AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

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Issue No 40

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June 11, 2008



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# ARMED COPS END SIEGE PEACEFULLY

### WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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### HAIR'S TO RACE FOR LIFE

Kristina and Sarah were just two of the 4,200 women who took part in this year's Race for Life at Mote Park on Sunday. It was the most recent in a series of races held across Britain, organised by Cancer Research UK which hopes to raise more than £300,000 to support vital research into the condition that affects millions. Ladies walked, ran and skipped around the 5k course, cheering and dancing to remember friends and family fighting cancer or to celebrate the lives of those who were lost to the disease. **FOR FULL STORY AND PICTURES, SEE PAGE 3.**

■ REPORTING TEAM: GARETH ARNOLD,  
SIMON ROBINSON AND LAUREN MUMFORD

POLICE ended a four-hour armed siege in the middle of Maidstone peacefully yesterday.

The man threw his gun from the window before he was arrested by armed police after four hours of negotiations.

Eye-witnesses told Yourmaidstone that a man was "pulled out" of 110 Kingsley Road at about 3.50pm.

He was been taken to Maidstone police station and was still being questioned as we went to press.

Armed officers sealed off streets around a house in Kingsley Road, near Mote Park, which is believed to be home of 39-year-old William Darby, known locally as Bill.

Patrol officers were called an argument was reported at the house. They arrived to find a man with a suspected firearm at 11.30am.

Police last night confirmed a World War Two replica gun was recovered from the address.

Negotiators are understood to have spoken with the gunman by telephone as they attempted to protect people living in the area.

Waterloo Street was also closed, and police ordered people to stay indoors.

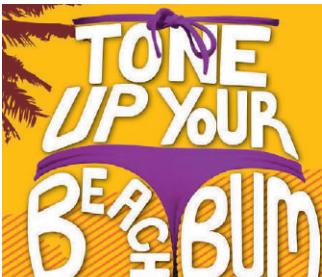
Neighbour Eline Hulbert said: "I have never seen so many policemen. It's frightening having something like this happening so close to my home."

Many people returning to their homes were also told to stay away while negotiations continued.

Ania Kasperazak, who lives on Kingsley Road, said: "When I got back from the market just after 1pm, there were police cars parked at the top of the road by the church. They told me I could go back home."

"Then, 20 minutes later a policeman with a dog came to the house. He was very polite, but he said

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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**TOP TV CLIPS**



**1** Julie Maddocks speaks to Strictly Come Dancing's Anton Du Beke. See leisure channel@Yourkenttv.co.uk



**2** High speed thrills with one of the south's top roller hockey teams. See sport channel@Yourkenttv.co.uk



**3** Steve Loader casts his eye over the latest version of the VW Polo. See motors channel@Yourkenttv.co.uk

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# Villagers switched off by wind turbine plans

■ BY NICK AMES

TELEVISION reception for more than 2,400 homes in villages surrounding Marden would be hit by the construction of a wind turbine taller than St Paul's Cathedral say campaigners against the proposal.

The Kent Weald Action Group is against plans to construct the massive 416ft-tall structure on land off Sheephurst Lane.

They say TV sets in Marden, Horsmonden, Goudhurst, Brenchley, Matfield, Collier Street and Yalding would all be disrupted as the turbine's giant blades would be in line with transmitters.

Programmes are beamed into different parts of the mid-Kent area from masts at Dover, Blue Bell Hill and Crystal Palace in London.

But if the turbine is between the receiving aerial and the transmitter it would affect the quality of signal wherever it came from, say the protesters.

John Webley, chairman of the action group, said: "We have looked at the impact wind turbines have had on TV reception in other areas and found that the blades do interrupt transmission.

"The problem occurs when the turbine is in a line between the signal's



**MAKING AIRWAVES:** Thousands of TV sets will be affected by the proposed wind turbine transmitter and receiver. However we have seen nothing on this potential scale – as this turbine is so huge.

"Wind turbine companies are sup-

posed to be responsible for sorting out problems of this nature, but I do not see how they could ensure TV reception for more than 2,000 homes.

"The scale of this problem is so large that there would obviously be huge delays in coming to any sort of solution – and that is presuming one even exists."

The plans for the turbine have been put forward by a company called Wind Direct and they are in line with the Government's sustainable energy drive.

Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Hazel Blears said an environmental impact on the plans were unnecessary.

However, both Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells councils have called for a survey covering visual impact and effect on wildlife.

Campaigners say the impact on television reception only came to light when developer's proposals were studied in depth and called them yet another example of underestimating the effect on local people's lives.

They said the information has now been passed on to Maidstone Borough Council.

Mr Webley added: "The wind turbine is being built in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – and one which does not receive all that much wind. It will be visible from as far a field as Sevenoaks to one side and Tenterden to the other."

• Email [yourmaidstone@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmaidstone@kosmedia.co.uk)

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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Missing girl found is 200 miles from home

POLICE have stopped the search for a missing teenager after she was found more than 200 miles away from her home this weekend.

The 14-year-old girl was discovered in the small town of Boston, in Lincolnshire, on Saturday and has now returned to her home in Preston.

The search for the teenager came to the county town after police discovered Miss Lewis had family connections in the Maidstone area.

## Private takeover not of concern for trust

A KENT NHS trust rated as 'weak' has refuted suggestions that a private company could takeover.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, branded 'weak' in the Healthcare Commission's assessment, said it had no reason to believe there would be any changes. The claim came after Health Minister Ben Bradshaw said bringing in private firms to run hospitals an option being considered to improve performance.

## Council waiting on freight depot draft

A DATE has yet to be set for full proposals for a giant freight terminal at Bearsted to be put before Maidstone council.

The depot would take freight from lorries from across the UK and put onto trains bound for the Continent. But before the council can debate the plans the Highways Agency has asked for details from developers about how local roads would be affected.

• Full story at [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk)

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## Joyful mood as thousands enjoy Mote Park Race for Life

MORE than 4,000 jubilant women came together for a fun run in a bid to raise money to continue the fight against cancer.

An impressive 4,207 ladies took part in Cancer Research UK's Race for Life at Mote Park, Maidstone, on Sunday, to fund vital work to beat the disease and celebrate the lives of those lost to cancer.

■ BY LAUREN MUMFORD

Organisers said the flagship fundraiser was "blossoming in Maidstone" and they expect it to bring in about £300,000 from the two events held in the county town alone. Race for Life coordinator Natasha Etienne said: "It was a fantastic day and it is really nice to know the people of Maidstone are behind Cancer Research UK and the cause.

"The day was like a huge party. Everyone was cheering and dancing and the atmosphere was fantastic.

"It was a celebration of those lost to cancer as well as a tribute to those who are fighting it."

It is the second Race for Life in the county town this year, the other was on May 18. The fundraiser, which was fully booked this year, was also attended by Carol McGiffin, a presenter on ITV's Loose Women programme. Carol, who lost her mum

Heather to cancer, was taking part with her niece Emma Parks, who chose to walk most of the 5k course in the 26 degree heat.

Organisers are now calling on all participants to return their sponsorship money so the fight against cancer can continue. For more information about Cancer Research UK, visit [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org).

• For more pictures from the Mote Park Race for Life, see [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk).

NUMBER ONE: Winner Angela Hames, from Gravesend, salutes her victory



RIGHT STRIPES: 'Tigger' Jack and sister Rebecca



ALL SMILES: July, Laura, Stephany and Toni, from Maidstone



FAMILY PRIDE: Winner Angela Hames, centre, with her mum Carole and sister Leanne



HEROIC: Rosie and mum Carol, from Sittingbourne

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ARMED RESPONSE: Police seal off street

## 'I couldn't get my kids from school'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT  
came to the house. He was very polite, but he said I had to stay inside.

"I was unable to get my son from school, but I have phoned them to explain. If there was the remotest chance of danger I wouldn't want him near anyway."

"My neighbours were told they couldn't go back – they were stuck at Sainsbury's wondering what was going on."

A neighbour said: "I decided to take the dog out for a walk and was told to come back inside and close the door. It's quite alarming. I've just kept out of the way."

Kenneth Bridges, who lives near the gunman's house, spoke to Yourmaidstone about the siege went on.

He said: "I opened the door and was told to get back inside. There were lots of police cars and over the road from me was a shop with three policemen and an Alsatian dog. One man had a shield and an automatic rifle.

"When I looked the other way, there were more policemen, some in uniform and others that weren't."

"They were here for about half an hour – well that's when we noticed them – but they could have been here longer than that."

"It took place well below the turning into Melville Road, somewhere between there and here. They all had protective helmets and no traffic was allowed down here because the cars were all being stopped coming through."

"The police don't get enough credit, they keep us all safe, people take the mickey out of them but they do a great job."

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



Relive the Battle of Maidstone re-enactment in the town centre

Picture: SIMON ROBINSON

# Schools face closure if they miss GCSE targets

BY LAUREN MUMFORD

THREE underachieving schools are faced with closure if GCSE grades do not pick up, following a new Government initiative to improve exam results.

Astor of Hever Community School, in Oakwood Park, Aylesford School Sports College, in Teapot Lane, and The Malling School, in West Malling, all risk closure if less than 30 per cent of pupils do not achieve at least five good GCSEs – including English and Maths.

The £400m 'National Challenge' initiative, which was launched yesterday by Schools Secretary Ed Balls, will require every secondary school in England to have achieved this GCSE benchmark within three years.

If they do not meet the standard they will either become an academy or join forces with a more successful school and become 'federated', which means both schools will have one governing body and one senior executive principal.

KCC cabinet member for educational achieve-

ment Chris Wells said: "The last set of targets to be set by government in this area was achieved by Kent schools with a year to spare."

"Kent has been working hard to improve these results long before Mr Brown and Mr Balls dreamt them up."

Executive principal of The Malling School, Ian Hobson, told Yourmaidstone he was "angered by the scheme" and said he is positive his school "will really fly through this".

Mr Hobson said: "We are already in a federation, with a brand-new school building and state-of-the-art facilities only opening in September last year – there is no question about closure."

### Raw

"We had a 'good' Ofsted report and our partner school, Holmesdale Technology College, was ranked 27th in the country for high-performing schools last year."

"The Government is doing us no favours with this kind of thing and when you put it into context it actually makes the figures look quite raw."

Aylesford School Sports College currently has 16 per cent of pupils meeting the Government

requirements, Astor of Hever has 24 per cent and The Malling School has 14 per cent.

Assistant headteacher of Aylesford School, Sharon Hendy, said she is confident current predictions indicate that the school is well on track to achieving the benchmark in this summer's exams.

She said: "As acknowledged during recent visits to the School by Ed Balls himself, by KCC Leader Paul Carter, as well as in Local Authority reviews and an Ofsted inspection no less than three weeks ago, we are heartened by their unanimously positive reaction to the huge strides we have taken this year to meet, and hopefully exceed, this 30 per cent benchmark."

"We have every optimism that we will be extremely proud of our students' achievements when the GCSE results are announced in August."

Astor of Hever School was unavailable to comment.

Almost one in five secondary schools in England has been given a warning to improve exam results including 33 schools in Kent, 27 in Birmingham and 13 in Manchester.

The schools have three years to meet these targets.

## MARATHON GIFT FOR HOSPITAL RADIO



A man who took part in this year's London Marathon has donated more than £200 to the county town's hospital radio station.

Royal Mail employee Graham Clarkson presented a cheque for £222.50 to Hospital Radio Maidstone after completing the famous 26 mile race in April earlier this year.

Mr Clarkson has done six London Marathons and during his last and final attempt, he completed the course in two hours, 55 minutes, beating his personal best.

Mr Clarkson said: "It's 25 years since my first London Marathon and I'm pleased to complete my final one in the quickest time."

"All the volunteers at Maidstone General are unsung heroes and I'm delighted to give something back to the community."

HRM is celebrating its 45th year of broadcasting since its launch back in 1963, to mark the anniversary, the station is having a party on Saturday June 21 at Larkfield Village Hall, in New Hythe Lane.

Former members are welcome to attend, tickets cost £7.50 per person. For more information, call 01622 729800.

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Picture: BBC



**PRESENTING:** Fiona Bruce has taken over the reigns of the Antiques Roadshow, which is coming to Leeds Castle

# Roadshow brings us more history, beauty and drama

■ BY LAUREN MUMFORD

ONE of the country's longest running television programmes is coming to the county town to check out some of the local boot sale bargains and family heirlooms.

BBC one's Antiques Roadshow will be filming for part of its 31st series in the grounds of Leeds Castle, in Maidstone next month, bringing with it some of Britain's leading antiques and fine arts specialists – who are inviting residents to raid their attics and bring along their household treasures for inspection, free advice and valuation.

Series editor Simon Shaw says: "The team are all looking forward to visiting Leeds Castle. It's always exciting to see what will come to light on the day. We regularly see between 1,500 and 2,000 visitors on the day. Despite the high turnout everyone will get to see an expert."

This year the Roadshow's antique specialists have teamed up with BBC news and Crimewatch presenter Fiona Bruce, who will be presenting the series.

Ms Bruce said: "Presenting the Antiques

Roadshow is, for me, one of those rare and very lucky coincidences in television when you get to work on a show you already love to watch. Exploring the human story behind every object is what makes Antiques Roadshow so fascinating.

"The Antiques Roadshow isn't just about antiques – its history, beauty and drama all wrapped up in one."

Chief executive of Leeds Castle Victoria Wallace said she is delighted to be hosting the Antiques Roadshow and hopes this will give the people of Kent a chance to bring their own treasures along to the castle to check out their value.

The Antiques Roadshow has been running since 1979 when it was hosted by Bruce Parker and Angela Rippon. Since then, Arthur Negus hosted the show from 1979 to 1983, Hugh Scully from 1981 to 2000, and Michael Aspel, who retired from the programme this year, since 2000. He has been replaced by Fiona Bruce.

Residents with large pieces of furniture or other big items can send details and photographs of them to, Antiques Roadshow, BBC, Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LR or to [antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk](http://antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk).

The show, which is aired every Sunday, will be setting up at the castle on July 3 – doors open at 9.30am and close at 4.30pm.

## Police call for vandals information

WITNESSES are being urged to come forward after a group of youths knocked down a wall and damaged residents' property in the early hours of the morning.

Around six offenders are believed to have poured sand on the top of a soft top convertible, in Hadlow Road, pulled up plants in a garden of Birchington Close and knocked down a wall between 1am and 2am on

Saturday, May 31, in the Vinters Park area. The group believed to have been involved were all wearing black hooded tops. One had a black bomber jacket with a baseball cap and another was wearing a white top and had blonde hair.

Anyone with information is urged to contact PC Martin Barrow on 01622 604373 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

**yourmaidstone**

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Arts website brings the best in music together

TALENTED musicians will now be able to upload information, promote their events and check out gig dates thanks to an exciting new website.

Maidstone Music, which is one part of the newly rebranded Hazlitt Arts Centre, has launched its website, which has already proven to be a success after promotional banners put up during Radio 1's Big Weekend sparked a rise in visitors.

The group aims to promote the county town as a centre for all musical genres through a free listings brochure, which will be issued three times a year, and the website, which will be updated with all gig and event listings and information.

Musicians can visit the website and upload event information for specific dates, stating start times, venue and event information – images can be uploaded too.

To sign up to receive emails from Maidstone Music, featuring all the latest news and event information in the county town visit [www.maidstonemusic.co.uk](http://www.maidstonemusic.co.uk).

## Community officer to join up with firefighters

POLICE and fire fighters have joined forces in a bid to offer a better service for residents living in their area.

Ex fireman PCSO Peter Gardner will be using Marden fire station as his base following talks with his old contacts and work colleagues in the brigade.

PCSO Gardner, who was a firefighter for more than 20 years said he thought the opportunity of working out of Marden fire station was an ideal choice.

He said: "It offers us a chance to work together on incidents which require both services, such as arson and traffic collisions."

Kent fire service area manager Sean Bone-Knall said: "We are always looking for new methods of engaging with the communities and this is another example of partnership working."

PCSO Gardner is expected to start using his base within the next two weeks.

## Enjoy beautiful therapy

A CRAFT evening will take place next Wednesday when Jenny Cooper will be showing off her silk paintings and watercolours at Renaissance Crafts in Union Street, Maidstone.

Jenny is very interested in the use of art as therapy to help others deal with trauma or loss and will be available to talk about her techniques. There will also be two workshops on silk painting at 5pm and 7pm.



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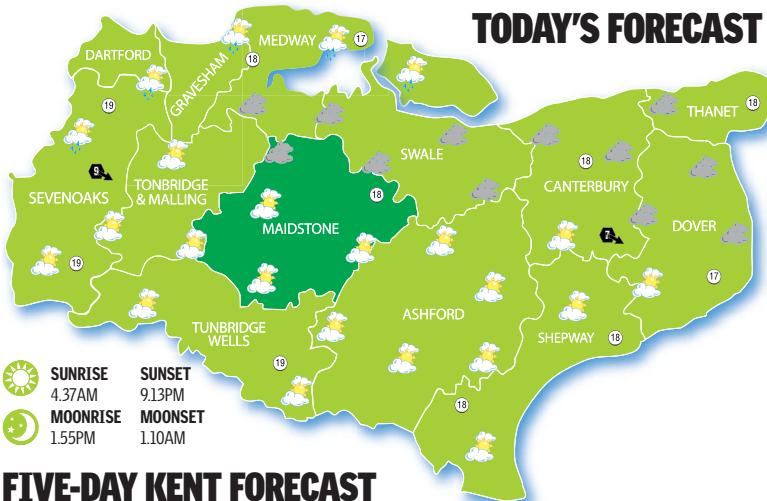
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## TODAY'S FORECAST

## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

<b>Chatham</b>	Saturday	8:30am	5.2m
	Sunday	9:33am	5.1m
<b>Dover</b>	Saturday	6:57am	5.5m
	Sunday	8:00am	5.5m
<b>Dungeness</b>	Saturday	6:44am	6.0m
	Sunday	7:48am	6.0m
<b>Ramsgate</b>	Saturday	7:27am	4.1m
	Sunday	8:30am	4.1m
<b>Sheerness</b>	Saturday	8:18am	5.0m
	Sunday	9:21am	5.0m
<b>Whitstable</b>	Saturday	8:23am	4.6m
	Sunday	9:27am	4.6m

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
<b>Ashford</b>	23°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Canterbury</b>	20°C	19°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Chatham</b>	20°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Dartford</b>	24°C	20°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
<b>Dover</b>	18°C	17°C	14°C	15°C	14°C
<b>Faversham</b>	20°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Folkestone</b>	18°C	17°C	14°C	15°C	14°C
<b>Gillingham</b>	20°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Gravesend</b>	24°C	20°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
<b>Maidstone</b>	24°C	20°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
<b>Ramsgate</b>	20°C	19°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Rochester</b>	20°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Sevenoaks</b>	22°C	18°C	14°C	15°C	15°C
<b>Sittingbourne</b>	20°C	18°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
<b>Tonbridge</b>	24°C	19°C	16°C	17°C	16°C
<b>Tun Wells</b>	24°C	19°C	16°C	17°C	16°C

## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

<b>Amsterdam</b>	25°C	<b>Madrid</b>	14°C
<b>Athens</b>	26°C	<b>New York</b>	33°C
<b>Barcelona</b>	21°C	<b>Paris</b>	26°C
<b>Beijing</b>	28°C	<b>Rome</b>	23°C
<b>Bombay</b>	26°C	<b>Sydney</b>	17°C
<b>Cape Town</b>	19°C	<b>Tenerife</b>	23°C
<b>Cardiff</b>	18°C	<b>Tokyo</b>	22°C
<b>Gibraltar</b>	21°C	<b>Vancouver</b>	12°C
<b>Hong Kong</b>	30°C	<b>Warsaw</b>	29°C
<b>Las Palmas</b>	25°C	<b>Wellington</b>	14°C

## Hospital says sorry to patient caught up in toothpaste blunder

A SCHOOL PA, who was left paralysed after supervising pupils on a trip, received an apology from hospital staff after a support worker brushed her teeth with hair removal cream.

Julia Osborne, 52, from Tonbridge, fractured her spine after falling on a coach stairwell during the school outing to France with the Cornwallis Academy last month.

She was then left in more discomfort when a support worker from Medway Maritime Hospital mistook hair-removal cream for toothpaste.

A spokesperson for the hospital said there has been no physical ill-effect to Mrs Osborne following the accident.

Headteacher Sonette Schwartz said: "We are praying for Julia as a whole school. We're very close to her on a personal level and are worried and concerned."

Miss Osborne, who works for the school in Hubbards Lane, Maidstone, suffered compression fractures to two vertebrae in her spine.

### Investigation

The 52-year-old underwent an emergency operation at a hospital in Lille, France, where she was in its intensive care unit for nine days before being flown home to Medway Maritime on May 25.

It was four days later when incident happened at the hospital.

A hospital spokesperson said Ms Osborne had received immediate treatment, following consultation with Guy's poison unit.

The hospital has since apologised and is carrying out an internal investigation.

Miss Osborne's fiancé, Ian Thalmessinger, said it could be up to six months before she gets back any movement and is campaigning to have her moved from Medway Maritime Hospital, in Gillingham, to a spinal unit where she will receive specialist treatment.

The couple, who have five grown-up children between them, plan to marry in October.

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### TRACEY CROUCH



**Q & A**

The Conservative parliamentary candidate for Chatham and Aylesford took time out of her busy schedule to talk to Lauren Mumford about why everyone should get involved in politics

**Q** Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

**A** I'm 32 and work for Aviva, the fifth largest insurance company in the world, which is branded Norwich Union and RAC in the UK, as head of public affairs. I was selected to be the Conservative parliamentary candidate for Chatham and Aylesford in November 2006.

**Q** What attracted you to politics?

**A** I studied politics A-level but soon realised there is much more to the subject than simply understanding ideological differences, and the aspect that has always attracted me to the job most is that you can make a real difference when people turn to you for help.

**Q** Is it something you've always wanted to get involved in?

**A** It's funny because I would say no – I read law at university with a view to becoming a solicitor – but all my friends and family would say yes. Maybe they realised I was passionate about politics before I did.

**Q** Why is being involved important?

**A** It really annoys me when people have a jolly good moan about the state of the country and then you find out they don't even vote! I've always thought if you don't like it, do something about it; or if you love it, then stand up and be proud to say so. Becoming an MP is

my way of protecting what is good and changing what is bad.

**Q** When and why did you decide to apply to run as MP for Chatham and Aylesford?

**A** Applying to become an MP is like applying for any other job, so really Chatham and Aylesford chose me. I do love the constituency though. I am a Kent girl and it is great to have a really good chance in becoming a Kent MP.

**Q** If elected what will you bring to both towns?

**A** Dedication and commitment to the community, passion and energy to engage in the issues that matter locally, and the enthusiasm to stand up and try to make a difference.

**Q** What does it involve when you run for MP?

**A** A lot of time. And a lot of walking around and shaking hands. You can't be shy and you have to be quite curious and inquisitive about people and their issues so that you can get to grips quickly with problems.

**Q** What are your thoughts about Ann Widdecombe?

**A** It is very hard not to admire Ann immensely. She has achieved a great deal in her parliamentary career without any help from anyone but through her own grit and determination. I will be doing well if I have even half of Ann's appeal.

**Q** What led you to support the Conservative Party, have you always been a Tory?

**A** I have always been Conservative. I grew up under Margaret Thatcher and admired many of her policies but I also really like John Major's "one nation" approach to politics.

**Q** What has been your proudest moment to date?

**A** Being selected as the candidate in Chatham and Aylesford was by far my proudest moment. I am glad my grandma was still alive at the time. At her funeral last year everyone kept telling me how proud she was of me – I know she is keeping an eye on my campaign from afar.

**Q** Do you live locally? If not and you are elected, would you move closer to the area?

**A** I am looking to buy at the moment and have fallen in love with a little place in Aylesford, but with the housing market as it is am just being a bit more cautious at the moment and watching to see what happens.

**Q** Is it important to know and live in the area you represent?

**A** It is absolutely vital to understand the issues that concern local people and the only way to truly do that is to be part of the community. I spend a lot of time with people who are not part of my campaign and they not only keep me up to date on the key issues but also keep me grounded.

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Baby Diana monkey at Port Lympne named after Mark Ronson in the run up to the Zoo8 music festival.



Julie Maddocks visits Biddenden Vineyards and meets managing director Julian Barnes.



In the sleepy village of Smarden, some wild creatures lurk - including tigers, lions and snow leopards.

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at... [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)

# The passionate heart Dickens kept hidden

■ BY NICK AMES

AN INVESTIGATION into the double life of world-renowned author Charles Dickens is set to shock fans who regard him as the outstanding example of Victorian English virtue.

A Channel 4 drama-documentary filmed in Medway and Thanet is set to reveal the man who penned such classics as Great Expectations, A Christmas Carol and A Tale of Two Cities ripped his family apart during a 13-year affair with an actress.

The programme will suggest during this time he fathered two illegitimate children who died at a young age.

Acclaimed actor David Haig portrays the author, with Hollywood star Amy Shiels as his mistress Ellen Ternan - known as Nelly.

The programme - filmed at Dickens' Swiss chalet in Rochester and Margate's Theatre Royal - will be screened at 9pm on Monday.

It is part of a series called Victorian Passions which lifts the lid on a so-called era of respectability.

A Channel 4 spokesman said: "The very symbol of Victorian virtue in public, for 13 years Charles Dickens conducted a secret love affair with an actress, possibly fathering two children who died in infancy.

"Attempts to conceal the affair involved a frantic double life with complex financial arrangements, networks of safe houses and bonfires of private letters and papers.

"It also entailed a series of ruthless acts which caused misery and irreparable rifts in his family. The programme revisits locations



**SECRET AFFAIR:** David Haig portrays Charles Dickens and Amy Shiels as Ellen Ternan in Channel 4's drama-documentary about their 13-year affair. Inset: Haig gives a reading as Dickens

where Dickens conducted his romance in near total secrecy, piecing together evidence that testifies to the couple's love.

"Interviews with experts, aficionados and descendants of the great man explore the effect the affair had on Dickens and his legacy."

The programme is presented by Charles Dance, who recently appeared in the BBC's acclaimed production of Dickens' Bleak House.

He takes the role of a detective questioning experts on how the relationship which betrayed his wife Catherine - from whom he eventually

separated - affected his writing and public personality.

Key scenes are dramatised to give the viewer greater understanding of those involved.

The programme was filmed on location at Dickens' Swiss chalet, which is now in the grounds of Eastgate House, Rochester.

It was originally in the garden of his home in Gad's Hill, just outside the city, and was the scene of much of his writing.

The Theatre Royal was chosen as the crew wanted to use locations Dickens was passionate about and he frequently held readings of his work there.

## Desk sells well above Expectation



A CHAIR and desk believed to have been used by Charles Dickens when he wrote Great Expectations at his home in Gad's Hill near Rochester have been sold for £433,250 at auction.

The items were expected to sell for between £50,000 and £80,000 at Christie's auctioneers in London.

But competition was extremely intense for the items donated to raise funds for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital by a family relative of the author.

Irish collector Tom Higgins will now take the historic furniture back to his home in County Wicklow.

The mahogany desk bears a bronze plaque which carries Dickens' name.

Along with the walnut chair, it was passed down to the author's great-great-grandson, Christopher Charles Dickens. When he died in 1999, his wife Jeanne-Marie donated both items to Great Ormond Street.

"Dickens was a champion of the poor and needy and an enthusiastic patron of Great Ormond Street Hospital in its early days," she said.

"I felt that it was Charles's wish and it is an honour for me to fulfil this wish."

Mr Higgins said: "I'm a big Dickens fan, I always have been. It's an important piece of literary history."

Dickens was one of Great Ormond Street's first patrons and spoke at its first fund-raising dinner in 1858.

A hospital spokesman said: "Money raised from the sale will help rebuild and refurbish the hospital, buy equipment and fund research."



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The Information Evening is being held at the University of Greenwich at Medway, Chatham Maritime. If you are unable to see us today, drop in to one of our other **Information Evenings**, which take place on the following dates:

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Blenheim Palace	21 Jun	£35
Kennet & Avon Horse Drawn Barge	21 Jun	£32
Bath	25 Jun	£24
Lunch at Moulin Snick, France	27 Jun	£43
Montreuil Sur Mer, France	28 Jun	£25
Ghent	1 Jul	£30
Colchester & Constable Country	3 Jul	£25
Never Forget - The Take That Musical	5 Jul	£69 SPECIAL PRICE
Petworth House & Gardens	8 Jul	£29
Arundel Castle or Chichester	10 Jul	£22
Kent County Show	12 Jul	£32
London Eye, Carvery & River Cruise	13 Jul	£59
New Forest	15 Jul	£23
Cruise, Runnymede to Windsor	16 Jul	£28
Beth Chatto Gardens & Colchester	17 Jul	£69
London Showtime - choice of shows	19 Jul	£46
Anglesey Abbey, Gardens & Watermill	19 Jul	£29
Bruges or Sluis	20 Jul	£30
60th Farnborough Int. Airshow	20 Jul	£40
Althorp House, Tribute to Princess Diana	22 Jul	£33
Lille & Eurolille	24 Jul	£30
Isle of Wight Explorer	26 Jul	£39
Monkey World	26 Jul	£32
Chessington World of Adventures <sup>2</sup>	27 Jul	£35
Thorpe Park	29 Jul	£39
Boulogne or le Touquet	30 Jul	£25
Legoland	31 Jul	£39

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<sup>1</sup> The price of £329pp is for 13 Sep 08 based on the Villa Iota - travel to Jersey by air, return by ferry to Poole with transfer back to Kent. 16 Aug - return air from Kent to Jersey. Call for Kent pick-up points for airport transfers, half board & single room supplements.

# Bob to bring his unique comedy to our airwaves

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SURREAL comic Bob Mortimer will take to the airwaves on Saturday as a guest host for BBC Radio Kent.

The acclaimed performer, who dominated the early 90s' TV comedy schedules with partner-in-crime Vic Reeves, will cover for regular host Pat Marsh, who is on leave.

The former *Shooting Stars* presenter said he was looking forward to his three-hour slot, having grown up with the wireless.

He said: "I fell in love with radio when I was young – it was the only way you could listen to songs your parents didn't approve of."

"I used to put a transistor, a tranny, under my pillow in my bedroom and that's what has always made radio a bit magic for me."



REUTERS

"I like talking to people on the radio because they are not physically near you and so you can say what you want without fear of attack or disease."

Having lived in the county for

10 years, Bob said he's grown to love the Garden of England and has even adopted Kent as his second home.

He said: "I like Kent for the very obvious reasons; it's very pretty and the weather is a lot nicer than up north where I am from."

"I have lived in several places in Kent and also filmed all over the county, and we've always had a warm welcome from people in Kent, I've never had difficulties with people."

"It feels very English to me, Kent, and I am very much an Englishman in that Morrissey sense."

Welcoming the new boy, Radio Kent's managing editor Paul Leaper said: "With a love of radio and a unique take on the world, we're really pleased he's taking over the BBC Radio Kent airwaves on Kent's radio station this Saturday morning."

Bob Mortimer is on BBC Radio Kent on Saturday, June 14, from 10am to 1pm.

## Water company wants to flood areas of county

PROPOSALS to flood an area of land in order to create a new reservoir serving homes in Kent will be displayed across the county by South East Water during the next two weeks.

The company, which serves 1.97 million customers across the area, says new supplies are essential if the shortages of recent years are not repeated.

A drought existed in the region served by the company – which covers most of Kent – from 2005 to 2007.

So, plans have been put forward by the company to guarantee supplies until 2035. They call for a new reservoir to be built near Canterbury by 2024 and facilities for further reserves in Surrey to be constructed. The area to be developed in Kent is near to Broad Oak, on the Sturry Road out of Canterbury.

Together the reservoirs will supply 77 million litres of water every day – a figure which, combined with other developments such as more exploitation of underground supplies,

will cope with an estimated expanded population increase to 2.3 million.

A roadshow detailing the proposals is set to tour the area and will be on display at the Abode Hotel in Canterbury on June 16. It will move to Park Mall Shopping Centre in Ashford on June 18 and Maidstone Town Hall on June 20.

Proposal summaries are available at libraries across the county and comments from residents of affected areas are welcome.

## Show you have a heart, support the foundation

THE British Heart Foundation is running a campaign this month to raise £1.5 million to fund life-saving research.

The Help a Heart drive comes after recent figures showed 155 people across Britain die prematurely every day from heart and circulatory disease.

The charity undertakes work into preventing the condition, as well as assisting people who have had operations.

Throughout June house collections are being organised and fundraising buttons will be on sale in charity shops.

Every day 12 babies are born in Britain with congenital heart disease and many need specialist care to survive.

Two-year-old Cordelia Griffin is one child whose life was saved by vital research.

Her mother Maddie, bought up in Margate, said: "When we were told our newborn daughter would have to have major surgery we were devastated.

### Devastating

"It was the worst thing in the world that could have happened to us."

"Fortunately she responded well to the treatment and after a worrying few weeks she was able to come home."

"Thanks partly to the BHF, Cordelia has been blessed with a normal, happy childhood."

Julie Martin, from Rochester, had a heart attack five years ago at the age of 34.

She explained why the campaign is so important to people like her.

"After I was released from hospital I had a BHF nurse to help me," she said.

"She took time to come and see me and to explain things, such as the food that was best for me to eat and most appropriate exercises."

"After recovering from a heart attack you look fine on the outside but inside you are still healing and she helped me to cope with that."

"This is why I feel this campaign and the work of the charity is so important."

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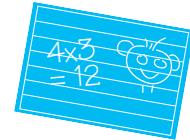
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# yourmaidstone schools



## BREAK TIME



### Young farmers aim for top trophy spot

MEMBERS of Oldborough Manor Young Farmers' Club have been preparing their cattle, sheep and pigs for this year's Kent County Show at Detling. The animals will be exhibited from July 11 to 13.

The Maidstone school's farm manager Lorraine Dent said: "We've been extremely successful in the past, winning several trophies for our farm animals."

"Last year we came overall third when competing against 15 other young farmers' clubs, so this year we're planning to improve on that."

### Safety in action day

SCHOOL children from across Maidstone will experience a series of challenges and scenarios during a 'Safety in Action' event tomorrow.

The day, which is being held at Invicta Barracks in Maidstone, will see 1,300 year six pupils get to grips with day-to-day challenges and potentially life-threatening situations including environmental hazards, electricity, fire, road and bus safety, stranger danger, drugs awareness and first aid.

SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourmaidstone@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmaidstone@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)

# Why MP Mike asked to visit Aylesford

■ BY LAUREN MUMFORD

TOP Tory MP Michael Grove toured a school in Maidstone last week – and was so impressed he wants to come back for another visit.

The Shadow Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families came to the county town for a meeting with opposition leader David Cameron's cabinet on Tuesday morning.

Following the get-together in the town centre Mr Grove requested a visit to Aylesford Primary School because of its outstanding reputation.

After the tour he said headteacher Sue Evans should be proud of an "exceptional primary school".

Aylesford and Chatham parliamentary candidate Tracey Crouch escorted Mr Grove throughout his day in the county town.

She said his request to visit the Teapot Lane school in Aylesford was, "hugely flattering, because it usually happens the other way round."

Maidstone councillor Dave Smith and Mrs Evans took them on a tour of the school.

Miss Crouch said: "I have to say it is a fantastic school, the energy and enthusiasm of the teachers is great and the happiness of the children – and to be fair, the exam results alone show it is a good school."

"As soon as you walk into Aylesford primary you know you are entering somewhere special – it was evident almost immediately."

She said the first thing they saw was a salsa dancing class, then as they walked into the next room all the children were gathered around a teacher and singing along as he played a guitar.



OUTSTANDING: MP Michael Grove with children at Aylesford Primary School which he visited on a trip to Maidstone

"When we were shown into the next classroom the children were playing a game of Simon Says in French," Miss Crouch said.

Mrs Evans is keen to stress that it isn't just about results – saying the school has had little money invested into it and although it is tidy, it is in need of repair.

Miss Crouch said: "The school is a delightful primary in the shadow of the new sports academy next door."

"It's sad that such a huge amount of money has been invested in the secondary school and yet the primary school has had very little

extra money invested in it."

"So much time and energy is spent devising policy on secondary education that often the primary system is forgotten despite the fact that if you get it wrong in the early years, then the rest of the education system falters."

School and council officials hope the visit will result in more financial investment being brought into the primary.

Mr Grove said he thoroughly enjoyed his visit and next time he is in the area he would be "delighted to come back."

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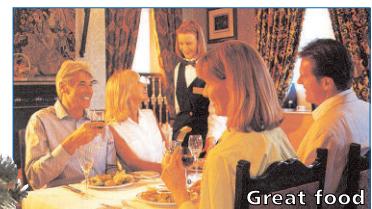
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# yourmaidstoneblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Maidstone...

## Brussels bureaucrats may be right about 2p banger

DOES anyone remember an episode of the TV show Yes Minister when there was a great deal made of a European Union bid to ban the British banger?

The whole plot revolved around the fact that it was considered unhealthy by European officials, who wanted to call it an "emulsified fried fat and gristle tube", or something similar.

Well, looking at the ingredients of the new 2p sausage as promoted by Asda I feel the Brussels bureaucrats might just have a point.

At 16p for eight the Smart Price sausage contains 34 per cent pork – all well and good, even if sausages sold by rival stores boast pork content in excess of 90 per cent.

But other ingredients include ammonium carbonate, sodium metabisulphite, disphosphates and ascorbic acid – not to say rusk.

Sounds lovely.

And where does all this fit in with the current fad for healthy eating?

If you listen to certain sections of the media

you'd have thought everyone scoured supermarket shelves in order to make sure every product they bought had an organic label on it.

Asda says the cheap sausage has been brought to the shelves in response to customer demand and contains no artificial colours or flavourings.

The company say that it is aimed at cash-strapped families and four people can be fed a meal of bangers, mash and carrots at a cost of £1.60. That's 40p a head – cheaper than a Mars Bar each. This may be so.

But I was of the impression everyone nowadays wanted sun-dried tomatoes with no food miles but a twist of coriander in the juice.

That certainly doesn't appear to be so and I think this Asda sausage has got to be – by virtue of its price – one of the least appetising foods ever put on the market.

The most unhealthy snack I have ever seen was in the USA – at a baseball game in fact.

A lutherburger is a cheeseburger smothered in sauces with the normal bun replaced by two halves of a glazed Krispy Kreme Donut.

It was invented by a diner in Georgia when the cook ran out of buns but had doughnuts.

Apparently each one contains more than 1,000 calories a portion and is accompanied by warnings that a bite can cause heart problems. Or just make you sick.

But at least it doesn't have an ingredients list which sounds like a GCSE chemistry question as the Asda delight seems to.

Other unhealthy foods have been identified by so-called consumer watchdogs as fizzy drinks, chips, doughnuts, coffee cake (why?), hot dogs, canned soup and luncheon meat.

With the possible exception of the last item the others are all perfectly palatable.

Of course, if you want something low on the health factor but a guaranteed delight I recommend a bowl of golden nuggets – the honey-based breakfast cereal which has yee-haw! (Or so it says on the packet).

• **Editor's Note:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Jon Coates**, on **01303 817048** or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Maidstone blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk).

Write to The Editor, Yourmaidstone, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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## WIN a Weber barbecue with British Turkey



**DELICIOUS:** One of Phil Vickery's summer barbecue favourites is juicy turkey, basil and corn burgers

THERE'S nothing better than a juicy barbecued burger – and now a celebrity chef has shared his secret recipe for a healthy version all the family will love.

Phil Vickery's tip this summer is – make your burgers with British turkey meat.

Barbecue fan Phil, who even travelled to America to brush up his technique, says: "In my view, the leg, or dark meat, makes better burgers, purely because the meat is juicier."

"Turkey breast is also fine, but because skinned breast of turkey can be less than two per cent fat, when it cooks, it may end up a more crumbly texture."

But it definitely won't be dry, promises Phil. "I have discovered a great trick. If you add a little mayonnaise to the raw mix it really helps to keep the burger beautifully juicy and tasty."

Find ready minced packs of turkey in your supermarket – look out for the familiar Red Tractor logo alongside the Quality British Turkey mark, your guarantee you are buying turkey farmed in the UK to high standards of food safety, traceability and animal welfare.

Need some incentives to get things fired up? We've teamed up with British Turkey to offer you the chance of winning a fabulous Weber blue charcoal One Touch Gold Barbeque plus



a copy of *The Little Book of Great British Turkey Recipes*.

Simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Weber BBQ Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is June 20, 2008.

Try Phil's recipe for juicy turkey, basil and corn burgers and find more great recipes on [www.britishturkey.co.uk](http://www.britishturkey.co.uk) and check out Weber's range of barbeques and accessories at [www.weberbbq.co.uk](http://www.weberbbq.co.uk).

**Question: What Turkey meat makes better burgers according to Phil Vickery?**

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# yourletters

## TALK TIME

### DEBORAH PUTXY

The 31-year-old Cancer Research UK volunteer took the time to speak to Yourmaidstone about her job and why she enjoys it.



#### How long have you been volunteering for Cancer Research UK?

I began to get involved with Cancer Research UK in early 2006, after I lost my nan to lung cancer in 2005. I started with the Race for Life, which I ran despite feeling poorly, I had always planned to run the next year but could never have foreseen that I would have been diagnosed with bowel cancer in November 2006. So now, I want to be able to help raise awareness and be able to provide support to those who need it as diagnosis, treatment and post treatment are all equally hard times.

#### What does volunteering involve?

As well as taking part in the Race for Life, my volunteering involves being on the organising committee for Relay For Life Rochester, which is an annual community event taking place over 24 hours. I also take part in fundraising activities, local collections and share my story of survival to raise awareness. Volunteering can take as little or as much time as you want to – from two hours, a month, to a number of hours a week – every hour helps.

#### Why should people volunteer?

I get satisfaction out of knowing that not only am I raising awareness, but there is hope after diagnosis. Volunteering for me is almost a therapy, I believe that if I can help one person then I have achieved my goal. We can all do something to help.

• You can volunteer locally for Cancer Research UK by contacting area volunteer manager Helen Water on 07765 896879 or sending an email to [helenwaters@cancer.org.uk](mailto:helenwaters@cancer.org.uk).

## YOUR LETTERS

### Social housing is back in demand as crunch bites

EXCLUSIVE  
BY LAUREN MUMFORD

THE demand for cheaper properties is soaring with

### Problems will get worse, not better

May I reflect on the headline of the article which appeared in the June 4 edition of Yourmaidstone, which read Social housing is back in demand as crunch bites.

The quoted comments in the article by the chief housing officer for Maidstone that the numbers on the housing register is rising each year and is now 2,500, indicates the demand has not gone away and remains as an indication of the continuing failure of current housing policies to secure satisfactory homes for those unable to purchase at the current (though falling) prices, as well as those who cannot compete in the market to rent.

That the situation is indeed worsening is borne out by the Housing Corporation Report to the South East England Regional Assembly for June that the numbers "continue to fall short of South East Plans".

Even more worrying is the fact the number of starts of new houses is also declining and some building firms have announced their intention to halt new construction in the present economic situation, the largest, Persimmon, is among them, this year is likely to show a very low level of starts compared to 1998.

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Not only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk) website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Maidstone as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

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The ambitions of Government to achieve their targets, which are modest compared to need,

are likely to be thwarted by the current situation and more people, especially the young are

going to be disappointed.

Maidstone council has long ago admitted they cannot achieve enough building to cover need and as the chief housing officer has said the situation "is likely to continue".

Leslie Turner,  
from Maidstone, by email.

## Men should keep their clothes on

With reference to projecting a good image to people visiting our lovely town of Maidstone, which is rich in history, architecture and the warmth of residents, as well as those who run the numerous businesses, with the onset of summer and despite the warmer weather, men ought to keep their shirt/T-shirt on.

It is my understanding that a gentleman only goes around stripped to the waist in the privacy of his bathroom, bedroom and on a building site.

I hasten to add, I am not the only one of this view.

On discussing this issue with a colleague, she informs me a neighbour of hers was observed taking his rubbish outside merely wearing his Y-fronts. This caused her great distress!

Name and address withheld at request of correspondent



## Help us bring an end to the tolls

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wants to keep the tolls as a way of making more money from drivers and hauliers.

If you can help in the fight to get the tolls scrapped, then please contact the National Alliance Against Tolls at naat@nottolls.org.uk.

John McGoldrick, from the Wirral in Merseyside, comment posted on web story at [www.yourmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.yourmaidstone.co.uk)



## Only foreign vehicles should have to pay

I've just read the article by James Alexandre about increases in QE11 Bridge tolls.

Why not charge all foreign-registered HGVs, vans and cars, say £25 per crossing.

By only having toll booths across half the road width, this would benefit all users as the flow of traffic would be greatly improved, the environment would benefit also, by reducing pollution from vehicle exhausts, and reduce the carbon foot print.

All UK-registered vehicles would have free and unrestricted access across the Thames.

A D Tregunno,  
from Lords Wood, by email.

## Freight costs affect price of everything

The rising price of oil on the world market during the last two years has meant we have all suffered. Very bad news for car drivers commuting to work, doing the shopping or getting about. Dire for operators of lorries and vans who need to move their goods as part of their business. Worst of all for hauliers, whose entire business is to move other people's goods. Fuel now represents almost 40 per cent of total operating costs. Bulk diesel prices have risen from 76p last May to 106p per litre today – a 40 per cent increase in just 12 months.

Diesel is the lifeblood of the economy. If you've got it then it has almost certainly been inside the back of a lorry. Everything in the supermarkets, high street, the bricks that build our homes and the beer that stocks our pubs. You name it and it's the product of a lorry journey. You may not like the lorry, but it delivers everything you need.

Sadly, the problems caused by a rising oil prices are compounded in the UK by our ultra-high tax regime. Duty on diesel is 50p per litre compared to the European average of 25p. A single 40-tonne lorry, doing around seven miles to the gallon, now faces an annual fuel bill of between £40,000 and £45,000, of which over £21,000 is tax.

The price of diesel, and the tax paid on it, impacts on the whole population. It is an ingredient in the price of everything. That is why it is so important for the Government to change its tax strategy and reduce the level of duty paid by commercial

vehicle operators. Not just for the benefit of those operators, but for all of us as consumers. High diesel prices stoke inflation.

The call for lower diesel duty is not just self interest by the transport industry. It is important for every one of us.

Gordon Telling  
London, South East and East of England  
Freight Transport Association

## Support your dad this Father's Day

This June is the Everyman Male Cancer Awareness month, a time to think about the 37,000 men affected by male cancers (prostate and testicular) every year in the UK.

Everyman is committed to changing that statistic and so am I. That's why I'm supporting their partnership with Debenhams, who with the help of the public, hope to raise an amazing £100,000 to fund vital research.

Every year you buy something from their menswear range in the lead up to Father's Day, money will be donated to find new cures for male cancer.

And you can give your dad the chance to win some great prizes by nominating him as your town's Father of the Year.

So, get your dad a great present, and help us fight against male cancer.

David James, England  
goalkeeper, by email.



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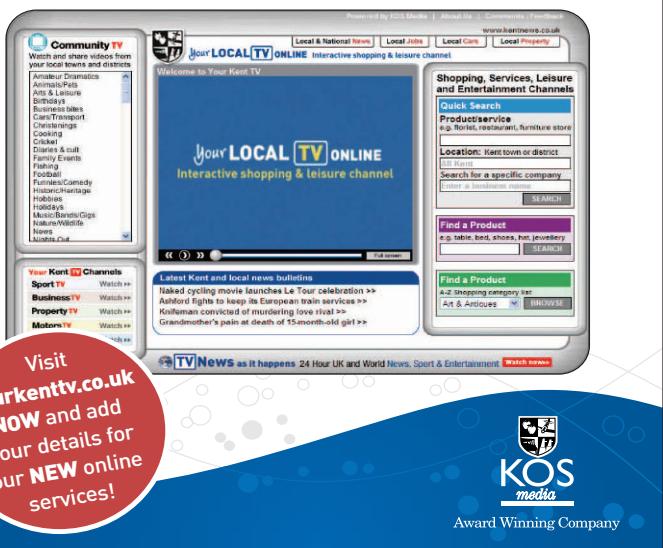


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## yourmaidstoneleisure



PLATINUM: Carl and Andy Pemberton almost gave up performing after mounting debts, but X Factor gave them a new chance to succeed in music

# Journey South's trek continues

Three years on for those X Factor lads on tour with their third album

JOURNEY South might have appeared to win overnight success on a TV talent show, but the reality was very different.

Brothers Carl and Andy Pemberton, from Middlesbrough, had already been gigging around the pubs of the North East for several years before their big break came along with X Factor.

They powered through to the final of ITV's talent search and won third place in the 2005 series.

Since then they have released two albums and enjoyed a sell-out 41-date national tour, with fans of the show clamouring to see them perform live.

With their good looks and great voices, the brothers have built up a large fan base and were able to have full control over their latest album Home, which was released on their own record label.

But despite their success, the

## JOURNEY SOUTH

Friday, June 13  
Central Theatre, Chatham



brothers have never forgotten how hard it was to make their mark before X Factor came along.

Determined to pursue a music career, Carl gave up his plumbing apprenticeship three months before he would have qualified and the pair set off to London with a caravan they had bought on a credit card.

The dramatic move inspired the duo's name, but they were soon to discover that the capital's streets were not paved with gold.

After two years of gigging, the pair had run up £20,000 of debt and made little progress in the industry.

"I think we felt like we had given it as much as we could, because we got into a lot of debt between us," Carl said. "We thought, 'when do we pull the plug?'" because the amount just kept running up. In the end we just had to quit and it was heartbreaking."

Bearing in mind their previous dis-

appointments, Carl and Andy were cautiously optimistic when they made it through the first round of X Factor's auditions.

They became a favourite with the viewers and judges, winning them over with strong rock anthems and fast development.

They even tamed the fearsome Simon Cowell, who signed them to Sony BMG when the show finished.

Despite losing out to eventual winner Shayne Ward, the brothers had made an impact and their musical career had a new lease of life.

Their first album went platinum and since then they have attracted interest from South Africa, Japan and the Netherlands.

Fans will have the opportunity to meet the boys at the Central Theatre, as they will sign copies of their new CD Home after the show.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £17.50/£16.

To book call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit the website at [www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking).



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## FLOWER FESTIVAL

Wednesday to Sunday,  
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EVERYTHING is coming up roses at Leeds Castle with its special flower festival and gardening event.

The event will offer visitors the chance to enjoy the amazing scent of roses in the castle rooms, which will feature beautiful floral decorations. Regional flower societies will be donating their skills to the festival to create the attractive pieces, themed around roses.

At the weekend there will be a two-day gardening event featuring specialist stalls and the opportunity to take advantage of a guided tour with the castle gardeners.

Gardening enthusiasts can solve those niggling plant problems at the twice-daily Gardening Roadshow,



where a panel of experts answer all your horticultural questions.

The castle grounds are open daily from 10am to 7pm with last entry at 5pm.

The castle opens at 10.30am and closes at 4pm. Tickets cost £15/£12.50 for adults and £9.50 for children. Call 01622 765400 or go to [www.leeds-castle.com](http://www.leeds-castle.com).

## WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT WOMEN

Sunday, June 15  
Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone

WHAT better way for a man to celebrate Father's Day than to find out what makes women tick?

Featuring three great local singers and a collection of timeless songs, What You Don't Know About Women is a celebration of emotive songs from a variety of musical styles.

Sarah-Jane Hassell and Georgie Grassom (pictured right) met while working together in Five Voices and One Piano – The Best of the West End, where they got talking about their favourite songs and found their tastes to be similar.

Grassom grew up with blues, soul and jazz while Hassell is a fan of old jazz and swing, so they decided to create a show where they could each choose what they love to sing. They will be joined for the first time by Bonnie Hassell, a member of Sarah-Jane's band Java Jam, and accompanied by musical director Eric Lund. Performances start in the Exchange Studio at 3pm and 7.30pm and tickets cost £12. Call the box office on 01622 758611 or book online at [www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk](http://www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk).



the Philippines and their inventive chord structures really set them apart from their contemporaries. Hits included She's Not There, Tell Her No and Time of the Season.

It is claimed that The Yardbirds (pictured) laid much of the groundwork for rock guitar as we know it. The line-up has variously included Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck, Jimmy Page and Gypie Mayo, while their music bridged the gap between early 60s white R&B and the psychedelic power chords of the 70s. The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £22.50. Call the box office on 01892 530613/532072 or book online at [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).

## THE ZOMBIES AND THE YARDBIRDS

Thursday, June 19  
Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

TWO legendary bands will be taking to the stage in one amazing concert when Tunbridge Wells welcomes The Zombies and The Yardbirds.

In the 60s The Zombies were part of the British invasion of America and were one of the few UK acts to enjoy true global popularity. They scored two US number one singles, drew crowds of more than 30,000 people in



## MAIDSTONE LEISURE

### Puppet Katie hopes to fly like the birds

A LITTLE girl wishes she could be as colourful as the birds in her picture in Fly Away Katie, an inspiring show by Long Nose Puppets.

Based on the children's book by Polly Dunbar, the show features music by Tom Gray of Mercury Prize-winning band Gomez.

Fly Away Katie will be at the Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on Sunday. The show, suitable for ages two to seven, starts at 3pm and tickets cost £6.95. Call the box office on 01892 678678 or book online at [www.trinitytheatre.net](http://www.trinitytheatre.net).

### Another live music night at pizza place

TWO remarkably talented British songwriters will be performing at Pizza Express in Maidstone this week.

Coffee Artists presents Rebecca Worthley and Shaun T Hunter, who will be demonstrating their skill in The Music Room on Friday. The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £12.

For more details and to book online visit the website at [www.pizzaexpressive.co.uk](http://www.pizzaexpressive.co.uk).

### Hunt for treasure and enjoy picnic with prince

ENJOY a treasure hunt and picnic with Le Petit Prince on Saturday in association with La Petite Ecole Kentoise.

The event will be held in Aylesford or Harrietsham and the exact location will depend on the weather. It will begin at 1pm and finish with some French folk songs at about 6pm. The suggested donation to cover costs is £5.

Contact Nathalie on 01622 728661 or email [Richard.dakin@yahoo.fr](mailto:Richard.dakin@yahoo.fr).

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# yourmaidstone music



FOR YOU TO ENJOY: The Hives and The Cribs are two of the many great acts confirmed to play at this year's Port Lympne Wild Animal Park's Zoo Thousand festival

## Fancy a festival but not the ticket price?

**ZOO** Thousand organisers are offering free entry, food and drinks to next month's eagerly anticipated three-day music festival.

The offer sounds too-good-to-be-true. And it is. All you have to do to claim your freebies is put in two eight hour shifts behind the festival's bars\*.

A spokesman for Peppermint Bars, the firm behind the volunteer deal, said: "There is a common thread between people who attend festivals and those who work at them – we all love being part of it."

"We know it sounds cheesy but apart from striving to deliver the best bar service to the festival, above all, we want you to have a good time doing it."

"In exchange for your hard work – two six to eight hour shifts – we'll get you in free to the fes-

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

tival and provide you with a meal and two free drinks from the bar for each shift you complete."

Zoo8 takes place at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park near Ashford from Friday to Sunday, July 4-6.

Mark Ronson, The Cribs and The Hives have been confirmed as the main headliners for the festival, taking to the stage after a host of established acts, such as Dizzee Rascal, Ash, British Sea Power, Delays, Athlete, and Funeral For a Friend.

Those seeking the next-big-thing have also been catered for, with dozens of promising up-and-comers lined up to perform across six smaller stages. If you are unfamiliar with the works of Kid Harpoon, Underground Heroes, Rosemary, Tom Allalone and Brigadier

Ambrose, now's your chance to be enlightened.

A standard weekend ticket costs £99 for an adult and £50 for children aged between six and 15. Day entry costs £45 for adults and £25 for children.

Of course, entry is free for festival volunteers.

Peppermint Bars' spokesman added: "Our new registration system for 2008 has many improvements, including allowing you full control to request the exact bar and shift times you want to work online, and allowing you to come back and change your shifts any time until just before the festival."

"This means that even if you don't get the exact shifts you want at first, you can check back regularly and if a space opens up you prefer – you can switch at any time."

For more information visit [www.zoothousand.com](http://www.zoothousand.com).

\*Note to volunteer bar staff – mine's a pint.

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**INDIE KINGS:** Kaiser Chiefs perform I Predict a Riot



**BIG WEEKEND:** Paramore take to the stage in Maidstone



**HEAVENLY:** Martyn Joseph performs Invisible Angel

## EXCLUSIVE KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

# Open Golf

at Royal Birkdale

The Open returns to Royal Birkdale ten years on from Mark O'Meara's victory and the emergence of a young amateur, now the top golfer in Europe, Justin Rose.

Golf's best known names including last year's victor Padraig Harrington\* will descend on Royal Birkdale, one of Britain's finest golf clubs. Having previously hosted two Ryder Cups, the Walker and Curtis Cups, the Women's British Open and, on eight occasions, the Open, Royal Birkdale is the perfect setting for the Open this summer.

The Open is golf's oldest tournament and was first held at Prestwick Golf Club in 1860 when just eight players played three rounds over a 12 hole course. Today the Championship is a top feature in the golfing calendar, attracting all the top world players competing for millions of pounds of prize money.

### The Price includes:

- Two nights stay at a 3 or 4 star North West hotel
- Dinner & full English breakfast inclusive from dinner on Friday evening to breakfast on Sunday morning
- Two days admission to The Open including the final day's play
- Coach transfers from the hotel to and from the course and return

\*Omega cannot be held responsible for the non-show of golfers. Prices based on two people sharing a twin/double room; single supplement applies. Operated by Omega Holidays plc ABTA V4782



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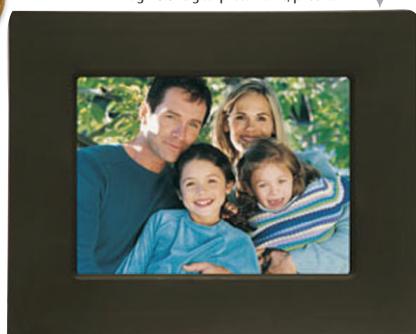
**BOOTS**

Grow It Chilli Plants kit, price £12.50



**BOOTS**

Imagin 5.6" digital photo frame, price £39.99



With many thanks to Westwood Cross and Fremlin Walk for their help with this feature

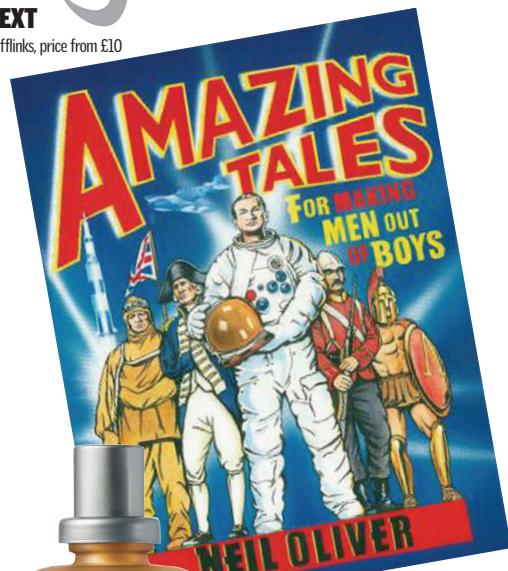
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NEXT

Cufflinks, price from £10



**WATERSTONES**

Amazing Tales For Making Men Out of Boys by Neil Oliver, published by Penguin/Michael Joseph, price £17.99

**BODYSHOP**

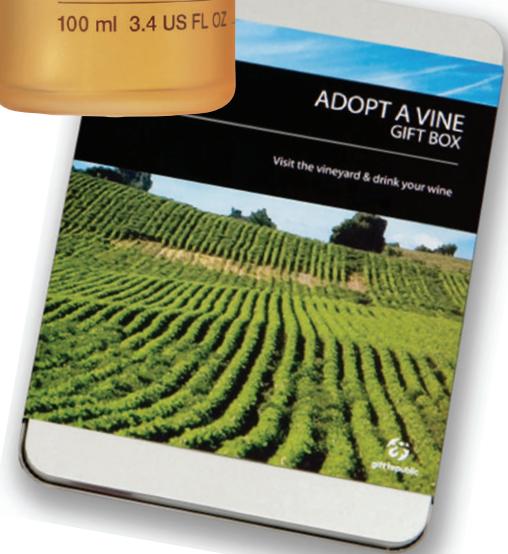
Javari Eau de Toilette, price £12 for 100ml

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## MAIDSTONE SHOPPING

### Zone in on great deals for fashionable feet

SHOE Zone in Maidstone is offering affordable footwear for all the family.

Shoppers can check out a range of styles at the store in Week Street, including flip-flops with gem detail for £2.99, reduced from £4.99 and summer pumps for £4.99. Men can find leather boots and trainers for £19.99 in sizes 6-13, plus much more.

Children's shoes are also on offer, including sandals, slippers, wellies and trainers.

### Discounts galore in Woolies' summer sale

HUNDREDS of prices have been dropped on selected toys, home and garden ware in Woolworths summer sale.

Shoppers can buy a 14-inch pink television for £59.99, a pink DVD player for just £19.98, a CD walkman for £7.99 and a number of DVDs at £4.99 each at the Week Street store.

Beanbags are also on offer from £11.97, a selection of duvet sets from £7.97, paddling pools from £2.50 and a gazebo priced £11.97.

### Make any outfit sparkle with new accessories

SHOPPERS looking to get glammed-up for the summer are invited to check out Accessorize's hot new collection.

The store in Week Street has just added exciting new summer lines, including 'bling ring' flip flops for £35, bow ballerina pumps for £15 and a selection of fair trade flap and shoulder bags from £12.

Customers can also dazzle their nearest and dearest with the store's latest collection of jewellery, with items starting at just £4.

### Count calories as you cross the countryside

DISCOVER the beauty of Kent while improving your fitness with the help of local author Michael Easterbrook.

The writer from Maidstone has put together Footpaths for Fitness: Kent, a collection of 20 circular routes taking in the best of the Kentish countryside.

The walks include points of interest and an estimation of calories burned on the way.

Priced at £7.99 the book is available from bookshops, local outlets and direct from the publishers at [www.countrysidebooks.co.uk](http://www.countrysidebooks.co.uk).

### Father's Day gifts go on display in the gallery

ANYONE struggling to find unusual Father's Day gifts should pay a visit to Liberty Gallery in Kings Hill.

Stylish leather Osaka bowls crafted by a Kent artist could be just the place for dad's keys and change, while making a striking piece of art when empty. The gallery also has a range of silver cufflinks, silk-screened ties and works in ceramic and glass.

The gallery in Liberty Square is open from 9am to 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday.



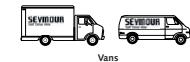
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# yourmaidstone timeout

## YOUR TV REVIEW



### BIG BROTHER

Channel 4, week nights, 9pm

■ BY TOM BETTS

IT'S summer time and the most derided show ever to push its way down the tube into our homes has returned.

No matter what your view of this reality TV heavyweight is, you have to say that double B has done well to reach this, its ninth series proper.

The show's longevity is undoubtedly its real feat.

All the more remarkable considering the Shilpa Shetty racism row, the police entering the house to split up a fight and one participant (Bonnie) who couldn't even pronounce her own name – the real low point, perhaps.

Worst of all, we even had the non-event that was the Big Brother: Celebrity Hijack (did anyone actually watch after the first night?), yet still it lives.

This is TV's equivalent to the movie villain who won't die, no matter if he has been stabbed, shot, thrown off a skyscraper or subjected to a whole series of *My Family*.

Nor does a show divide the country in this way and for such a sustained period of time.

On the one hand you have those who hate it and everything it stands for (but who often watch anyway) and on the other hand the hoardes who become a little obsessed and tune in every night requiring their fix of madness.

All fine enough, although if you find yourself actually voting then you need to start asking yourself a few serious questions.

The simple fact is that every year millions of us lap it up.

And what better way for Channel 4 to further split the country into two



**HOUSE OF HORRORS:** Davina McCall will be keeping an eye on the Big Brother housemates warring factions than this year's rum bunch.

Contestants include a love-struck couple, accountant, masseuse, model, radio producer, dancer, toy demonstrator, trainee teacher, executive chef, and the usual smattering of students.

It is 93 days long, bound to be the talk of workplaces up and down the land for some months and, one suspects, still to be with us for many years yet.

Of course the cruel irony here is the contestants, every fame-seeking last one of them, will never be more well-known than when they are in the house itself and will likely have a lousy, traumatic 'journey' as producers Endemol have promised to get tough... again.

There was even a fake marriage in week one.

Now, tough is one thing but torture – isn't that illegal?

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOU finally have a chance to slow down and enjoy an easy life. An influential contact or close friend could prompt you to try a new pastime and it will give you a big buzz. A financial setback could occur. Have faith that your cash flow will soon recommence.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

### TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

MONEY could come and go very quickly, but that doesn't bother you a bit. You consider your cash well spent as you buy beautiful things to uplift and inspire you. A friend's erratic behaviour could upset you. It's hard to know whether you should confront them or let sleeping dogs lie.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753

### LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

DOING things for yourself has very little appeal this week. You're ready to do your bit on the behalf of others. Getting involved with a good cause should prove exhilarating. Don't be surprised if you're offered a leadership position. People are drawn to your warmth and generosity.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756

### SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

A PROGRAMME of self-improvement could get rewarding. Although breaking a bad habit won't be easy, you can do it. Contrary to what you might think, people will respect your admission of weakness. They'll offer all the support you need to overcome this obstacle.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759

### PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

HOUSEHOLD matters take up most of your time this week. If you've been thinking of moving, this would be an excellent time to begin your search for a new place. Take care that erratic habits don't scare anyone off. The more conservative you appear, the better.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763

### GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

YOUR ability to inspire others helps you attract favourable attention. Speaking your mind to an authority figure wins their respect. They can teach you a lot, provided you're willing to rein in your ego. Upheavals at work could cause you to snap at someone you love. Think before you speak.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754

### VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 22)

YOUR drive to succeed is unstoppable. There's never been a better week to seek career opportunities. Although onlookers may not think you're competition, they have no idea how ambitious you really are. Working hard behind the scenes will help you overcome competition.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU could find a kindred spirit in a highly educated person. This friend may prompt you to change career paths or alter your lifestyle. Don't be afraid to make changes for the sake of your own happiness. Meddlers may accuse you of being selfish, but that's because they're jealous.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760

### CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

MAKING inroads at work will give you great pleasure. It's within your reach to reform outmoded systems. Fortunately, your colleagues will back your efforts. Once your superiors see how well your efforts work, they'll realise it's pointless to go back to the original ways.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761



1

### ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19)

YOUR mind and heart are working hand in hand. Take care not to blurt secrets to a loved one. This person isn't trustworthy with sensitive information. Keep these impulses for yourself. You will get plenty of support to move forward with a plan you've held dear since childhood.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752

### CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

A DESIRE for peace and quiet could prompt you to spend more time at home. An exciting earning opportunity could come your way. Getting caught up in a religious or political cause could undermine your peace of mind. Be careful where you tread.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755

### LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU yearn to explore greener pastures. Lately, you've been trying to synthesise the lessons you've learned over the past few months. An impassioned friend will urge you to move forward with your plans. Be sure to follow their advice. Avoid discussing controversial topics at work.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758

### CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

MAKING inroads at work will give you great pleasure. It's within your reach to reform outmoded systems. Fortunately, your colleagues will back your efforts. Once your superiors see how well your efforts work, they'll realise it's pointless to go back to the original ways.

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Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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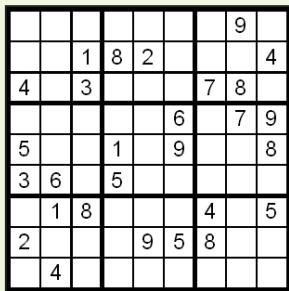
**CROSSWORD & SUDOKU**

No40

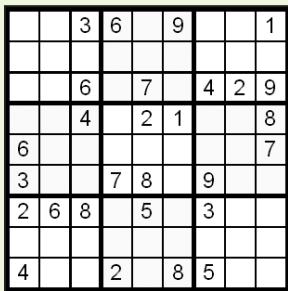
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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

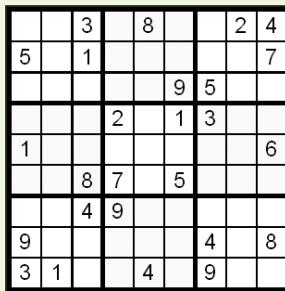
**EASY**



**MEDIUM**



**HARD**



**CRYPTIC CLUES**

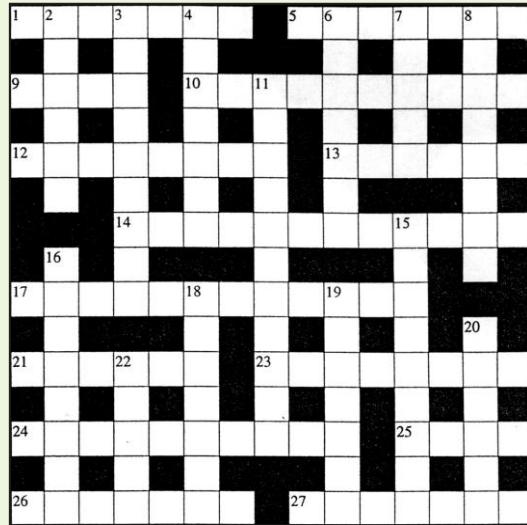
**ACROSS**

- Moderate limit by modifications (7)
- Fat soap I'd smeared on end of nose (7)
- Joke from first person in France by the way (4)
- Rhythmically lacking strength of character (5-5)
- Win easily although not in form! (8)
- Steer taking last part of the soup (6)
- Suitable to become a union member (12)
- Like the heavens perhaps beyond one's comprehension (4,4,4)
- Sour expert has contract (6)
- Improved, having been given a lift (6,2)
- Lady had hen William cooked (10)
- Audibly complains about dimensions (4)
- Supporter of one in prayer (7)
- Pip ie right to be more shabby (7)

**DOWN**

- Fashionable new flues of good purpose (6)
- Metal core removed by tardy person (9)
- Loud and dishonest place of amusement (7)
- Lengthy time of fame first - lasting 24 hours! (7)
- Queue for milk in Paris after parking (5)
- Difficult to describe it in translation on screen (8)
- State flower (11)
- Now having put on clothes, spoke (9)
- Six in London area getting into trouble with explosion (8)
- Flying body (7)
- In French class welcome enclosure (7)
- Crossword used to perplex (6)
- Some impolite hehaw or laugh (5)

**SCRIBBLE HERE**



**QUICK CLUES**

**ACROSS**

- It keeps the pot hot (3-4)
- Copy (7)
- Broad smile (4)
- Oarsman's craft (6-4)
- Refutation (8)
- Ice-cold (6)
- Bring back into good condition (12)
- Small case (9,3)
- Patterned material (6)
- Energetic (8)
- Final battle (10)
- Dyke builder (4)
- Specimen (7)
- Second son of Noah (7)

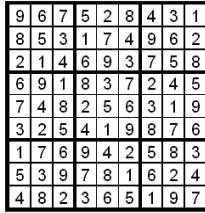
**DOWN**

- Nearer (anag.) (6)
- Victor (9)
- Claw (7)
- Attentive (7)
- Proscribed (5)
- Absurd imitation (8)
- Operating properly (4-7)
- Imago producing woolly-bear larva (5-4)
- Female pilot (8)
- Desk reservoir (7)
- A big one (anag.) (7)
- Refreshment bar (6)
- Panic (5)

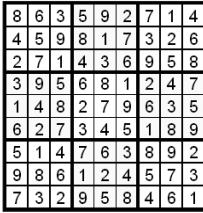
**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No39**

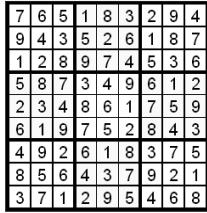
**EASY**



**MEDIUM**



**HARD**



Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

**CRYPTIC SOLUTION No39**

**ACROSS:** 1 Mozzarella 7 Wick 9 Gauntlet 10 Carnal 11 Exhaustive 14 Purulent 15 Throng 16 Frigid 18 Backlash 20 Undeceived 23 Hilary 24 Mangrove 25 Mete 26 Donkeywork. **DOWN:** 2 Okay 3 Zena 4 Relieve 5 Latchet 6 Account 7 Work-to-rule 8 Chauvinism 12 Quarantine 13 Jugged hare 17 Decayed 18 Bitumen 19 Cadence 21 Prow 22 Ever.

**QUICK SOLUTION No40**

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## A horse by any other name

BY ED HILL

WHEN I was asked to take a gastronomic tour of Flanders the history of the suffering of the soldiers involved in World War One sat uncomfortably with the thought of stuffing my face with the region's best food and drink, but in many ways the region is an example of the very best and worst of human civilisation.

Firstly, I should say the area is an ideal destination for someone in Kent to make a weekend break, although there is plenty to justify a longer stay.

We travelled with Norfolkline which runs ferries from Dover to Dunkerque. Ypres is less than an hour's drive from the port and makes the ideal centre from which to travel around the region.

On the way to the city we stopped to sample one of Belgium's most famous exports – beer. We began at the De Dole Brewers (or Mad Brewer's) company in Esen.

This company was started in 1980 by two brothers, Chris and Jo Hoteller, and produces some of the region's most distinctive bottle fermented beers. Gert, the brother's 90-year-old mother, and our guide, swears by the beers medicinal properties and judging by the speed she climbed the stairs it was hard to disagree.



**GOURMET:** The central square of Ypres has plenty of lively cafe-bars

We then travelled to Westvleteren to sample beer brewed by the Trappist monks at Sixtus Abbey; named by one US website as being the best in the world.

In Ypres we stayed close to the centre at the Ambrosia Hotel. The town retains its mediaeval character including the impressive Cloth Hall which houses the In Flanders Fields museum. The lively town square provides a relaxed atmosphere in which to eat and drink.

The In De Zon restaurant specialises in serving some of the region's most well-known dishes.

es. I chose to eat paardenvees (horse).

Most people in the UK may object to eating My Little Pony but to be honest I have never got on with the things, so the opportunity of eating one seemed too good to miss. In fact, unless I had been told it was equine in origin I would have assumed it was just a tender cut of beef.

We spent the next day exploring the region's bloody World War One history. Until September the In Flanders Fields Museum is holding an excellent exhibition about the many peoples and cultures from outside Europe which were involved in the war.

The countryside is dotted with cemeteries with war dead from the conflict. We visited the largest Commonwealth cemetery Tyne Cot which contains the remains of more than 11,000 men and lists the names of more than 35,000 men missing in action on its walls.

In the evening we observed the Last Post which is held at the city's Menin Gate everyday at 8pm.

We then went to dine at the Regina restaurant off the town square where we were served an excellent pigeon dish. Just to say I had not set out to eat unusual animals during my visit, that is just how it turned out.

I wondered if the next day's menu might contain weasel. In fact I was served rabbit, veal and chicken in a clear aspic jelly at the Gasthof De Kring restaurant in Poperinge.

Flanders is a region of stark contrasts. It may seem it is dominated by the history of World War One, but it has much to offer the visitor.

### FACT FILE: BELGIUM

Time difference	UK + 1 hour
Capital	Brussels
Population	10.5 million
Currency	Euro
Religion	Catholic
Climate	Temperate
Language	French/Dutch/German

### Holiday details

Ed Hill travelled to Belgium with Norfolkline on its Dover to Dunkerque route. The company has recently introduced three new ferries on the route. Prices start at £19 for a one-way trip for a car and up to four passengers. Visit [www.norfolkline.com](http://www.norfolkline.com) for more information. Other cross-Channel operators include SeaFrance and P&O. Accommodation is varied. A night's stay at the new Ambrosia Hotel close to the city centre in Ypres, costs from about 54 euros for a single, or 69 euros for a double or twin. The In Flanders Fields Museum's Man Culture War exhibition mentioned in the article runs until September 7. Opening hours are 10am to 6pm. Adult entry is eight euros for both the exhibition and museum or five euros just for the exhibition.



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### EXCLUSIVE KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

## British Grand Prix at Silverstone

Experience the excitement of the British Grand Prix 2008 at Silverstone. See all your favourite Formula 1 drivers including British sensation Lewis Hamilton\* on this great-value break...

**It's a must for all motor racing enthusiasts and offers you the unforgettable chance to see the best world-class drivers in action and to enjoy all the noise, excitement and atmosphere of this major sporting occasion.**

The British Grand Prix is the oldest race in the Formula 1 calendar, with the first race of The Formula One World Championship held here in 1950. The circuit was formed from a former World War II aerodrome and is fast and challenging with famous corners and bends - Luffield, Becketts, Copse and Stowe, which test even the best driver's skill to the limit and exhilarating straights such as Pits and Hanger, where speeds up to 190mph have been recorded.

2007 World Champion Kimi Raikkonen was the winner of last year's race in his Ferrari, beating the McLaren pairing of Lewis Hamilton and Fernando Alonso. This year Hamilton will be looking to join the elite of British drivers to win in front of the home crowd including Sterling Moss, Jackie Stewart, James Hunt, Nigel Mansell and Damon Hill.

#### The Price includes:

- Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Midland's area hotel with dinner and full English breakfast inclusive
- Coaching to and from the hotel to Silverstone

- 1 day general admission walkabout ticket to the Grand Prix (Upgraded tickets may be available on request, call for details)

\*Omega cannot be held responsible for the non-show of drivers  
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## ON GENERAL RELEASE SUPERHERO MOVIE (12A)



From the creators of *The Naked Gun* and *Scary Movie* comes the latest gag-athon for the big screen. The story centres on Rick Riker. He's young, he's cool and he's got superpowers, if he only knew how to use them... but the world is in danger and no one is safe.

### MONGOL (15)



*Mongol* traces the formative years of legendary warrior Genghis Khan. Spanning his life from age nine in 1172 through to 1206, when the nomadic clans united under his leadership, this historical epic boasts dazzling cinematography and bloody battles. *Mongol* captures the harsh climate and varying terrain of the Mongolian steppe.

### PROM NIGHT (15)



Donna's senior prom is supposed to be the best night of her life. Surrounded by her best friends, she should be safe from the horrors of her past, but the night every school girl dreams of quickly turns from magic to mayhem when the psychopath who killed her family escapes prison and comes to claim her.

# Director Ben's back baby back

■ BY ROBIN WALKER

BEN Affleck proves even the crash and burn of a high profile Hollywood romance can have a silver lining.

At the height of his tabloid-blazing relationship with Jennifer Lopez four years ago, he started writing a film script of Dennis Lehane's novel *Gone Baby Gone*, a harrowing thriller about the search for a missing four-year-old girl and the people it involves.

Initially he thought of it as vehicle for Lopez, but instead it has become an acclaimed directing debut for the 35-year-old actor.

In the decade since he won a Best Screenplay Oscar with pal Matt Damon for *Good Will Hunting*, Ben has gone from bright newcomer to blockbuster star to tabloid fodder. It has been a bruising rise and fall that would have sunk a less-talented actor.

But the surprising thing about Ben Affleck, considering his bad choices like *Gigli*, is how articulate and bright he is.

Multi-lingual in Spanish and French, his all-American good looks are matched by genuine depth and he's matter-of-fact about what has happened to his career.

"The first half of the media cycle was fascination, the second half was rejection. But what I never realised is that the public don't end up blaming the magazines that write every untrue story."

He's a different person from his public image, says Ben – who admits to being scared during his first day as director. Prior to *Gone Baby Gone* he'd only directed a student film.

"I'm always described as 'cocksure' or 'with a swagger'. That bears no resemblance to who I feel like inside. I feel plagued by insecurity."

While depicting the tragedy of 1950s television Superman George Reeves in 2006 film *Hollywoodland* went some way to rejuvenating his acting career, *Gone Baby Gone* has really turned heads.

## VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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Full screen



**STILL HERE:** Despite a career littered with highs and lows, Ben Affleck is still proving he's got what it takes

hold by Disney because of the ongoing McCann case.

"We just thought it was better to err on the side of discretion," says Ben. "I'm proud to be associated with a company that made a decision I thought was respectful."

Ben will return to acting in the romance comedy *He's Just Not That Into You* with Jennifer Aniston and Scarlett Johansson, due for release later this year.

He counts himself very lucky in a business where many people fall by the wayside. He may have taken a hefty pay cut in Hollywood terms from his \$12-million-plus-per-film heyday, but he is still paid a lot of money doing what he loves.

"I have really very little to feel sorry for myself about. People have legitimate hardships, so it's kind of petty for me to sit around ruminating about little dents in what has been a very fortunate life so far."

**GONE BABY GONE**  
Certificate 15

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### It's time our value reviews went local

THE latest nationwide survey of house prices is far less important than regional studies, according to the National Association of Estate Agents.

The group says it paints an incorrect picture as it just gives an average of trends rather than taking into account area variations.

In Kent, prices have proved more resilient in the recent declining market as proximity to London and improving transport links have contributed to a better market.

Association chief executive Peter Bolton said: "The national sales figures do not tell the whole story.

"We know from our members that the picture is still very regional with some areas continuing to do better than others."

He also concluded that in terms of sales and viewing figures, as well as the decreasing gap between asking and final prices, the market was looking at becoming less fluctuating.

The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors has also been examining the figures and experts concluded the property market would begin to stabilise when the number of transactions started to increase.

### Buying isn't always your best option

RENTING an upscale rural home is becoming increasingly popular for people who want to live the country life but not fork out masses of cash.

Demand for country lettings is booming, with impressive Loddenden Manor, Staplehurst, a good example of the trend.

Set in 10 acres with eight bedrooms, stables, coach house and pool, it is on the market for £2.25 million. But for £8,000 a week it is available to rent with interest and stamp duty not a factor.

Manor Farm House near Faversham is another property with the same sort of attraction to a letter.

The four-bedroom property with its own three-bed stable cottage, billiard room and gymnasium would be available for rent at £6,000 a month with Savills. But to buy it would cost £1.5 million through Strutt and Parker.

Another factor is that most country homes which are available for letting ensure that major structural repair work is the responsibility of the landlord.



## ONE TO LOOK AT

A new development by George Wimpey is pointing the way to a future in homes.

The three-storey show home is packed with design ideas for summer 2008 with fresh whites and rich burgundies the predominating colours.

The contemporary townhouse design features a lounge/dining room with French doors to the rear garden and also includes kitchen, entrance hallway and guest cloakroom.

Upstairs are two bedrooms and bathroom, while the top floor is given over to a master bedroom with walk-in dressing area and en-suite shower facilities.

The home cost is £219,995 and it can be viewed at Repton Park, Ashford.

# Drop in prices puts ladder within reach

TIMES are tough for first-time buyers in the housing market – yet they could discover help from an unexpected source.

Those unable to come up with enough cash for the deposit on a property could receive assistance from developers.

Incentives from those with homes to sell are becoming more and more common as companies start to realise how much stock they have on their hands – and no one is rushing forward to buy it.

SmartNewHomes.com is a website which analyses properties coming on to the market.

Managing director David Bexon said: "First-time buyers across the country are benefiting from a plethora of developer incentives as house-builders try to sell remaining stock. Now is a great time to drive a hard bargain."

These incentives can include help with

■ BY NICK AMES

deposits, legal fees and stamp duty, subsidised mortgage payments, cash-back offers or fitted kitchens and carpets included in the sale price.

David Wilson Homes is one company which has adopted a policy of assisting first-time buyers under a scheme called Head Start which has proved successful in recent weeks.

Customers are offered the option of paying 85 per cent of the purchase price of the property with funding from a bank or building society but with no deposit needed to be paid, while the remaining 15 per cent is offered as an interest-free loan by the developer.

The deferred amount is then paid back within 10 years of the purchase, or at the time of resale if this is earlier.

Meanwhile, Linden Homes South East is

offering £750 a month towards mortgage payments for the first 18 months on some of its properties in west Kent.

Other prospective homeowners have taken the decision to sit out for the time being, waiting for prices to fall even further, forcing the sellers to offer more incentives.

Moneyfacts is a financial information service which has been examining that option.

Spokesman Andrew Haggard said: "With current levels of uncertainty and volatility surrounding the mortgage industry and the housing market, maybe it's worth sitting on the sidelines."

"If property prices were to fall 15 per cent in the next 18 months – which is conservative compared with some estimates – then those itching to get their foot on the housing ladder could benefit from a double whammy of very good savings rates – which are currently at a seven-year high – and the falling cost of that elusive first property."

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Dengrove Park, on Shalloak Road, Broad Oak, housing 68 units, is just 2 miles from the centre of Canterbury and 1 mile from Asda. The park is surrounded by fields and woodlands.

This is one of the largest twin units in the park, 42 x 20. Built to a high standard by Country Homes in 1994. These homes rarely come on the market so early viewing is recommended.

The home has all the modern comforts that you would expect from this top of the range model. There are 2 double bedrooms with fitted cupboards and wardrobes; one has ensuite with wc, washbasin and shower. Cloakroom with wc and washbasin and wardrobe. Long hallway with large airing cupboard housing Vaillant Combi Gas boiler. Spacious deluxe kitchen with built in gas oven and grill and separate gas hob. Space for fridge/freezer. Utility room with cupboards over worktop and space under for washing machine and tumble dryer. 20 x 17 L shaped lounge/dining room with wall lights and fire surround.

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## Semi Detached 1930's Character Property

**Ground floor shop:** Large Reception 15'6" x 10'0" + Bay Window, a down stairs toilet 4'x 4", Treatment Room 14'10" x 9'8" with Patio Door to 160ft long garden. Parking space for up to four cars, presently running as beauty salon (not included in sale) on a busy main road.

### Selling Price & Tenure

**Selling Price 1:** £255,000

**Business Details:** Presently running as beauty salon (not included in sale) but negotiable.

Annual T/O 25-30k (Open 3.5 days p/w)

**Business Details:** Ground floor shop: Large Reception 15'6" x 10'0" + Bay Window, a down stairs toilet 4'x 4", treatment Room 14'10" x 9'8" with Patio Door to a 160ft long garden. Parking space for up to four cars, presently running as beauty salon (not included in sale) on a busy main road.

### Accommodation Details

**Is accommodation included with this business:** Yes

**Number of bedrooms:** 2 doubles

**Accommodation Details:** 1930 Character Property, in good order throughout.

**Upstairs:** Bathroom 5'6" - 5'0", Separate toilet 4' x 3'6", large lounge / diner 15'6" x 12'9", Bed(1) 14'10" x 9'8", Bed(2) 11'5" x 7'5" and kitchen 10'10" x 7'5", fully equipped + Bay Window (down stairs).

**Outside:** 1 Outbuilding 9'10" x 6'0" and 1 Wood Shed 12" x 9" (optional). Partially boarded Loft potential for extension.

### Location Details

**Town:** Kennington

**Area:** Kent

**Location Details:** Property is in a two mile radius of Ashford centre close to Ashford International Station, bus routes, schools, 5min to M20 / J9 and 5min to Eureka Leisure Park.

### Contact Details

**Vanessa:** 07769626760



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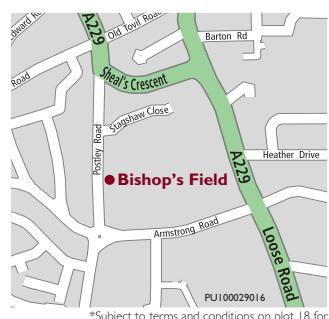
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## MOTORS NEWS



### Kent group adds Kia to its portfolio

MOTOR group Drake & Fletcher has added fast-growing Kia to its franchises.

The Korean brand joins Mazda and Hyundai on an existing site at Ashford Orbital Park, where Drake & Fletcher also has a separate Honda dealership.

Hyundai and Kia are sister brands, but D&F sees Kia fitting in as the sporting arm of the partnership – the low slung three-door Kia Proceed hatchback was launched this year – and Kia's seven-year warranty on selected models is a unique selling point in the UK.

Drake & Fletcher was founded in 1898 and, four generations on, is still owned and run by members of the founder's family.



### New Patriot kit is the height of bling

JEEP has unveiled extra bling available for its attractively-priced junior model line-up, the Patriot.

Credible on and off-road and able to average 42mpg in best-selling 2.0-litre diesel form, the Patriot (from £15,995) can be equipped with a chrome grille, bodykit, sports suspension and 20-inch alloys.

The 'bling' packs start from £999 and owners can also specify an 'SE Lifestyle' interior at £1,199 and bringing leather effect centre armrest cover, four chrome loud speaker rings, chrome gearshift gate, leather gear knob and leather effect toppings.



### Commute to work via the Skoda Greenline

SKODA dealers now have the greenest version of the new Fabia supermini in stock.

The 1.4 TDI Fabia Greenline can average around 70mpg and, with CO2 emissions of just 109g/km of CO2, is exempt from the London congestion charge – Kent car commuters take note.

This Czech eco car – £11,490 and £12,140 in hatch and estate form respectively – achieves this miserly fuel through higher gearing, better aerodynamics and weight saved by replacing the spare tyre with a puncture repair kit.



**STAR BUY:** Despite its celestial name, the Daihatsu Sirion is a down-to-earth supermini with big car abilities, offering low fuel consumption and a surprisingly spacious interior

## Space and star appeal of the Sirion supermini

MAJOR car makers have tried to register every possible model name, forcing others to come up with weird permutations.

So Daihatsu offers a supermini called the Sirion. The name could come from Lord of the Rings or starstruck marketing types allying Sirius with Orion – both probably owned by Ford – in the hope of ascendance on the sales front.

But there is nothing Tolkien-esque or celestial about the Sirion – it is a down-to-earth little car for the real world.

Underpinnings from the more expensive Toyota Yaris are clothed by a superbly practical and age-less five-door body and prices are competitive, from £7,495.

The three-cylinder 1.0-litre I had driven previously is the economy star; if rather sluggish and noisy. It averages around 55mpg and emits 118g/km of CO2, qualifying for just £35 a year road tax.

A far better all-rounder is the four-cylinder 1.3 (from £7,995) tested here; it is more refined

### ROAD TEST DAIHATSU SIRION

■ BY STEVE LOADER

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

and flexible with decent low down power, yet averages nearly 50mpg even if road tax jumps to the next band (£120/year) due to emissions of 137g/km.

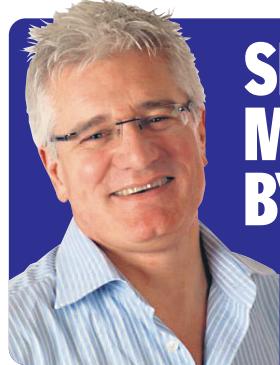
However, this version is claimed to have the world's first self-regenerating catalyst, for a longer life and lower maintenance costs.

There is also a 1.5-litre version, but I question its relevance to what the Sirion is about, for this is a small and economical car with big car abilities – a brilliant all-rounder. It might sound like a Noddy motor, but bulbous wheelarches and a rakish window line give this boxy car some extra presence.

It carries five properly and split rear seats fold flat easily to create a van-like rear section or two other permutations. The rake of the rear rests can also be set to two positions and the car is packed with stowage bins and cubby holes.

Ride quality on a relatively long wheelbase is good and the 1.3-litre can be driven with passion too; the high body rolls a little, but grip is rarely compromised.

Air-con is fitted as standard and mid-spec SE brings alloys and rear parking sensors.



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06 (06) C22 1.3 Auto, 5DR, Silver  
06 (06) C22 1.3 Auto, 5DR, Grey  
08 (08) Lancer GS1 1.8, 4Dr, Blue  
08 (08) Lancer GS3 1.8, 4Dr, Silver  
08 (08) Lancer GS4 2.0 DID 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Lancer GSRSST 300 LTR, 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Lancer GSR 360, 4Dr, Red  
08 (08) Outlander 2.2 Diamond, Red  
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Animal, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey  
07 (57) L200 Animal, Trux Top, Liner, Silver  
08 (08) L200 Diamond, 20" Alloys, Liner, Rear Parking, Sports Bar, Blue

### NEW VEHICLES

Lancer 2.0 Evolution XGS SST, Phantom Black  
Outlander 2.0 DI-D Elegance, Window Tints, Cool Silver  
Outlander 2.2 DI-DC Diamond, Thunder Blue  
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Life Club Cab, Polar White  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Alloys, Roll Top, Starlight Silver  
L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Alloys, Roll Top, Sports Bar, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver  
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L200 2.5 DI-D 4Life Single Cab, Liner, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver

Lancer 1.6 Equipe 4Dr Auto, Stone Grey

Lancer 1.6 Equipe 4Dr Auto, Deep Blue Mica

Colt 3Dr 1.1 C21 Manual, Spicy Red

Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black

Shogun SWB 3.2 DI-DC Equipe Auto, Sterling Silver

Shogun LWB 3.2 DI-DC Elegance Auto, Graphite Grey

Lancer 2.0 DI-D GS4Dr, Manual, Stone Grey

Lancer 2.0 Evolution X Gsi Lightening Blue

Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Cool Silver

Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Orient Red

Outlander 2.0 DI-D Warrior, Amethyst Black

Outlander 2.2 DI-DC Diamond, Cool Silver

L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Starlight Silver

L200 2.5 DI-D Diamond, Liner, Bluetooth, Parking Senor, Reef Blue

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L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Liner, Gas Lift, Parking, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver

L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Graphite Grey

L200 2.5 DI-D 4Work Single Cab, Cosmos Black

Lancer 1.6 Equipe 4Dr Auto, Cool Silver

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Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black

Colt 3Dr 1.5 C2T Black Hawk, Mystic Black

Colt 3Dr 1.1 C21 Manual, Spicy Red

Shogun SWB 3.2 DI-DC Equipe Auto, Sterling Silver

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# USED CAR ROUND-UP:

## OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

### MAZDA MX-5



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#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

### CONVERTIBLES

SUMMER is here at last and our thoughts turn to convertibles, even if open top cars are regarded more and more as all-year round purchases, partly because of the growing breed of folding hardtop or 'coupe convertible' models that offer better looks and security. This week's mix of used buys covers this new type but also takes a close look at the excellent Mazda MX-5 – the affordable roadster that has done more than any other car to make the UK one of Europe's biggest markets for convertibles – despite the weather.

### VAUXHALL ASTRA



VAUXHALL surprised everybody with the success of the original Astra convertible, followed up with the brilliant Astra TwinTop and the name inspired by the electronic folding metal roof. Both four-seaters look good with the roof up or down and the TwinTop is a particularly good achievement when so many of its coupe convertible rivals look ungainly or 'boot heavy'. As with many 'chopped' hatchback convertibles, there is some body flex on both models, but don't let this break a deal.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
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Quality	★★★★★

### PEUGEOT 206CC



MERCEDES pioneered folding metal roof convertibles with the SLK in the 1990s, but Peugeot brought the type to the mass market with the big-selling and plentiful 206CC. Based on the French marque's 206 hatchback and biggest seller, the 206CC even had two seats in the back, although it should never be considered anything more than a 2+2. While relatively affordable, there have also been reliability problems with the temperamental roof mechanism.

#### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

#### CORSA From £6995

0606 Corsa 1.4 16v Active AUTO 5dr Star Silver 14000miles £7,995.00

0656 Corsa 1.2 16v Sxi + 3dr Sapphire Black 20000miles £6,995.00

#### NEW CORSA From £8495

0707 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 3dr Sapphire Black 11000miles £8,495.00

0707 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 5dr Star Silver 9500miles £8,495.00

0707 New Corsa 1.2 Sxi 3dr Star Silver 4500miles £9,495.00

0707 New Corsa 1.2 16v Sxi 3dr Air Con Sapphire Black 4600miles £9,495.00

0707 New Corsa 1.3 Cdti Air Con 3dr Flame Red £9,495.00

0707 New Corsa 1.3 Cdti Design 3dr Sapphire Black 13000miles £9,495.00

0757 New Corsa 1.2 Sxi 3dr Flame Red 2000miles £9,495.00

#### ASTRA Cabriolet From £8995

0505 Astra 1.8 16v Exclusive Cabriolet Sapphire Black Black Leather £8,995.00

#### NEW ASTRA From £6995

0454 New Astra 2.0 16v Turbo Sri 5dr Ultra Blue 28000miles £8,995.00

0505 New Astra 1.4 16v Breeze 5dr Star Silver 27000miles £7,495.00

0555 New Astra 1.4 16v Active 5dr Star Silver 46000miles £6,995.00

0606 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Star Silver 20000miles £8,995.00

0656 New Astra 1.4 16v Club Choice of Colours 2 to choose from £7,995.00

0656 New Astra 1.4 16v Life 5dr Air Con Moonland Just 7500miles £8,295.00

0707 New Astra 1.6 16v Design 5dr Star Silver 6000miles £9,995.00

0707 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Star Silver 10000miles £9,995.00

0757 New Astra 1.8 Sri 5dr VXR Styling pack Choice of 3 £11,995.00

#### NEW ASTRA SPORT HATCH From £8995

0606 New Astra 1.4 16v Sri Sport Hatch Ultra Blue 15000miles £8,995.00

0707 New Astra 1.7 16v Cdti Sri Sport hatch Flame Red £11,995.00

#### NEW ASTRA TWIN TOP From £12995

0756 New Astra 1.6 16v Twin Top Sport Star Silver 7000miles £12,995.00

#### NEW MERIVA From £8995

0656 New Meriva 1.4 16v Design 10000miles Silver Lightning £8,995.00

0707 New Meriva 1.416v Energy Star Silver 5000miles £8,995.00

0757 New Meriva 1.4 16v Energy Sapphire Black 4500miles £9,495.00

#### NEW VECTRA From £8995

0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Exclusive 5dr Pomegranite Red £8,995.00

0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Design 5dr Star Silver 24000miles £10,495.00

0656 New Vectra 1.9 Cdti (150) Exclusive 5dr Silver Lightning £9,495.00

0707 New Vectra 1.9 Cdti (120) Life ESTATE Pomegranite Red £10,995.00

0707 New Vectra 3.0 V6 Cdti AUTO Sat Nav Sapphire Black £13,995.00

#### ZAFIRA From £7495

0454 Zafira 1.8 16v Life Auto Ultra Blue 18000miles £7,495.00

#### NEW ZAFIRA From £9995

0555 New Zafira 1.9 Cdti (150) Sri Sapphire Black 19000miles £11,995.00

0555 New Zafira 2.016v Turbo Sri Panmacotta 19000miles £10,995.00

0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Club Flame Red 21000miles £9,995.00

0606 New Zafira 1.8 16v Active Silver Lightning 14000miles £10,995.00

0606 New Zafira 1.9 Cdti Active Ultra Blue 9500miles £11,495.00

0606 New Zafira 1.9 Cdti (150) Design Star Silver 14000miles £12,995.00

0656 New Zafira 1.6 16v Active Star Silver 13000miles £10,995.00

0707 New Zafira 1.9 Cdti Sri Sapphire Black 8000miles £13,995.00

0757 New Zafira 1.6 16v Club Metro Blue 10000miles £12,995.00

#### VXR RANGE From £14495

0606 New Astra 2.0 VXR Arden Blue 19" Alloys £14,495.00

0606 New Astra 2.0 VXR Sapphire Black 16000miles £14,995.00

0606 New Astra 2.0 VXR Arden Blue 15000miles £15,295.00

#### MONARO From £16995

0555 Monaro 5.7V8 Black with Black Leather 22000miles £16,995.00

#### OTHER MAKES From £5995

0202 Peugeot 206 CC 2.0Se Silver 46000miles £5,995.00

0656 Mini Cooper Auto Yellow very high spec £13,995.00

#### DELIVERY MILEAGE CARS

0757 New Zafira 1.616v Energy Flame Red £11,995.00

0757 New Tigra 1.4 16v Exclusive Flame Red £12,495.00

#### DELIVERY MILEAGE VANS (all + VAT)

0707 New Astravan 1.3Cdti Club Glacier White £7,995.00

#### DEMONSTRATORS

0707 New Astra 2.0Turbo Design Twin Top Star Silver 4000miles £15,995.00

0757 Combo Crewvan 1.7Dti Glacier White £7,995.00

0757 New Meriva 1.6 16v Design Star Silver £11,995.00

0757 New Astra 1.816v Sri Sporthatch Panoramic Roof Metro Blue £12,995.00

0757 New Zafira 1.9 Cdti (120) Design Pannacotta £13,995.00

0757 New Vectra 1.9(120) Sri 5dr Silver Lightning £13,995.00

0757 New Astra 2.016v Turbo Exclusive Twin Top Sapphire Black £17,995.00

0757 Antara 2.0Cdti S Granite Black 5dr £17,995.00

0757 Antara 2.0Cdti S Auto Granite Black £17,995.00

0757 New Zafira 1.9Cdti (150) Auto Design Panoramic Roof £18,995.00

#### LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (all prices + VAT)

0454 Toyota Hi Ace 280SWB Red 24000miles £7,995.00

0554 Vivaro 1.9 (100) Sportive Air Con Star Silver 56000miles £7,995.00

0555 Vivaro 1.9 Cdti (100) 9 seat Minibus Air Con Glacier White £13,995.00 (no vat)

0655 Vivaro 1.9 Sportive Star Silver 24000miles £9,995.00

0656 New Astravan 1.9 Sportive Flame Red 44000miles £8,795.00

0707 New Astravan 1.7Cdti Club Glacier White £8,995.00

0707 New Vivaro 2.0Cdti (115) 9 seat Combi Lwb Star Silver £16,995.00 (no vat)

0757 New astravan 1.9 Sportive SE Star Silver 10000miles £10,995.00

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**ALFA ROMEO**

**146** TI, 5 door, p 1996, 2 owners from new with full service history mainly main dealer, it has the 2.0 engine which produces 150bhp, red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtesy Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

**147** JTD 02, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, trip computer, blue, 1000 miles, £11995, Thame Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**156**, **TS 16V TURISMO**, gtx4xu, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, air con, cd player, radio, electric windows, headlight wash, air bag, colour coded body, 16" alloys, red, 58000 miles, £4699, Marshalls, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**BENTLEY**

**ARNAGE, RED LABEL** auto, 2001, blemish silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**BMW**

**1 SERIES**, **116I SPORT 5dr** (6), 122193127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, brilliant silver, 12369 miles, £17999, AutoPlan Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, **120I SE 5dr** 05/06, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, remote control, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, brilliant silver, 12751 miles, £14994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

**3, 2002**, dolphin grey, 63008 miles, £8995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, **1.8I Saloon** 4d 1496cc, 1316900, mot -11/04/09 good runner, green, miles, £695.00, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

**316 SE**, 2001, blue, 63000 miles, £5795, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 550 442 (TRADE)

**320 2.0, TD SE 6 Speed**, 2004, black, 51000 miles, £9995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

**325i, TURBO DIESEL**, 1995 (m), 94 (m) bmw 325i turbo diesel 4 door saloon, stunning citrus yellow, co-achieve with grey velour trim, long mot, ps, ev, em, air bags, remote central locking/alarm, hi-fi, huge 18" memo alloys, lowered, clear lights, recent service, etc. a well looked after example, a bargain at only £2295 now only £1695, citrus yellow, miles, £only £1695, Rivera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

**CADILLAC**

**CTS, 3.6 CT Sport** luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22397 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**CHEVROLET**

**CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0**, gtx0bowr, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £2295, cayfins chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

**KALOS, SX**, gtx6cty, finished in red with interior, red, 17000 miles, £5499, cayfins Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

**KALOS, S 1.2**, gtx7gxx, finished in sports blue with black interior, blue, 1000 miles, £6295, cayfins chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

**CHRYSLER**

**NEON, RT 16V**, 95/01, 95 (n), 5d saloon, metallic green/couchwork with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, new mot, ew x 4, em, ps, air bags, a snap at now £995, many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.riveracars.co.uk, metallic green, low mileage miles, £only £995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

**NEON, 2.0 LXI, 95/01**, 95 (n), 5d saloon, metallic green/couchwork with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, new mot, ew x 4, em, ps, air bags, a snap at now £995, many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on:

www.riveracars.co.uk, metallic green, low mileage miles, £only £995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

**CITROEN**

**CITROEN BERLINGO** 800, 04/2005, 1.9d 1d side door white ps 43.000 miles, £5995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**C4 PICASSO**, 777x7, air conditioning, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, trip computer, blue, 1000 miles, £11995, Thame Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**C5, DESIGN**, gtx7zua, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, blue, 18 miles, £10995, Thame Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**SAXO, 1.1 DESIRE** 5dr, 2003, 1.1 desire 5dr hatch, silver, 29200 miles, £3495, Barretts Citroen, Canterbury, 0345 370978 (TRADE)

**HONDA**

**ACCORD, - 2.2 I-CTDI SPORT** 4dr, 421649, honda accord 2.2 i-ctdi 4dr honda hondra Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher black, 2007, 4444 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, black, £16995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

**KALOS, SX 16V** 5dr, gn53av, cloth upholstery, immobiliser, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, brilliant silver, 12369 miles, £17999, AutoPlan Maidstone, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**LANOS, 1.3 Hatchback** 3d 1349c, w583nlm, new not very clean cheap tax, green, 33935 miles, £1495.00, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

**TACUMA, CDX** 1998cc 5 door, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking alarm's airbag multiple airbags power steering immobiliser electric windows, mot blue, 85000 miles, £2495, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290890 (TRADE)

**DAIHATSU**

**CHARADE, 1.0 SL 5Dr Hatchback**, 07/2004, a/c alloy wheels electric windows central locking ps, champagne, 11, 000 miles, £3995, Cherton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

**FIAT**

**FIAT DUCATO 11 MWB**, 11/2005, 2.3 jtd hi ps 39.000 miles fsh shelved lined one owner drver elec pack, £6495, Beavers Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**FIAT DUCATO 14.2 8 JT**, 02/2002, 14 seats minibus rohrl tri axle 40000 miles tiffalt air suspension ex council ideal camper conversion, £7995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**500, SPORT**, gtx7cfg, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, red, 3000 miles, £10495, Thame Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**CIVIC, - 1.6 I-VTEC EXECUTIVE** 5dr, 1267649, honda civic 1.6 i-vtec executive 5dr hondra honda hondra drake & fletcher eton blue, 2004, 26246 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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**CIVIC, - 1.6 I-VTEC SPORT** 3dr, 1171649, honda civic 1.6 i-vtec sport 3dr hondra honda hondra drake & fletcher eton blue, 2005, 32010 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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**CIVIC, - 1.6 I-VTEC SE SPORT**, 02/02, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, alarm, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, twin air bags, electric windows, electric mirrors, sunroof, cd player, radio, abs, power steering, clutch, drivers airbag, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, radio cassette, alloy wheels, 4x4, seat, 73600 miles, £5995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

**LAND ROVER**

**DEFENDER, 110 TD5 XS** ST, 04/2004, 1.9d 1d side door white ps 43.000 miles, £5995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

**DISCOVERY, GS TDI** automatic, 1901054, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, steering, roof bars, side steps, electric windows, air conditioning, sunroof, cd player, blue, 1000 miles, £16995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

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**TO ADVERTISE:** **EMAIL US** @: [appointments@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk)

**TELEPHONE US ON:** 01303 817040

**FAX US ON:** 01303 817004

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- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
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- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

**Senior & General Appointments** 38-42

**Public Notices** 41

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million.



## REF: 488 - Director of Development and Marketing

**Salary from £45,000** (negotiable plus pension and other benefits)  
Based in Kent or London  
Preferred 37 hours per week

This new senior post will have a lead responsibility for taking KCA (UK) into the next phase of its service expansion and for promoting the organisation's ethos and achievements. You will be responsible for actively seeking new contracts and establishing new services in line with KCA's strategic development plan and developing links with the range of KCA's external stakeholders, the general public and the media.

You will be able to evidence

- Extensive knowledge of the substance misuse and mental health fields or a related health/social welfare sector
- Experience of inter-agency working at a senior level and of relevant commissioning structures and processes
- Experience of successful large scale contract acquisition, service set up and delivery
- Degree level education together with an appropriate professional/managerial qualification

You will have an ability to work independently and imaginatively as well as contributing and collaborating effectively within a cohesive management structure.

**For application forms contact: KCA (UK), 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, www.kca.org.uk.**

**Closing date:** 6th July 2008  
**Interview date:** 22nd July 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.  
Charity No: 292824

## Abbey Court School "WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School, a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.  
We are currently looking for...

## TEACHING ASSISTANTS

to join and enhance our large and expanding, high calibre team.  
**Medway Scale, Grade D2**

**£14,492 - £18,430 (PRO RATA) + SEN Allowance (£1,107 (pay award pending))**

Are you committed, motivated and enthusiastic? Does 'Every Child Matters' to you? Can you make a difference? If so, share your talents and expertise with us.

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 4-19 with severe learning difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w, term time only.

Previous experience and/or NNEB (or equivalent) qualifications preferred. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone (stating the role for which you are applying):

Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School,  
Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP  
(01634 338224)

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

**Closing Date:** 20th June 2008

## THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

(A Foundation Technology College)  
Arethusa Road, Rochester, ME1 2UW • Tel: 01634 844809 • Fax: 01634 818385

E-mail: [office@thomasaveling.co.uk](mailto:office@thomasaveling.co.uk) • [www.thomasaveling.co.uk](http://www.thomasaveling.co.uk)

## ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Term Time only - 30-37 hours per week (negotiable)  
Salary will be paid pro rata on the NJC/TAS Pay Scale Grade D2 - (£14,492-£18,430 fte)

We seek an experienced clerical support worker to take over the duties of Student Attendance Officer as soon as possible.

Tasks include recording and monitoring attendance of students, providing information for management and completion of returns for local and central Government. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and sound administrative/ICT capability.

- Job description and application form available on the school website
- Please contact the school to request an informal visit if required

Letter of application with CV should be sent to Mr S Rayner, Finance & Business Manager, to the above address.

**Closing Date:** Monday 23rd June 2008

The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal Opportunities Employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant



EDUCATION

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## CUSTOMER SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR

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## Operations Manager Required



Take 1 is a rapidly expanding digital transcription company based in Cranbrook.

We are looking for a new Operations Manager. You will be managing a small team in an IT based environment, delivering excellent customer service, and ensuring urgent deadlines are met.

You will need a flexible approach and good commercial experience to contribute to continued growth and help develop new services.

Salary: £25k



## A job you believe in Advocates

c. £20,000 - £23,000 • Full and part time posts

Recently appointed as a major provider of advocacy in Kent, we are looking for people who are skilled in working alongside people with learning disabilities to

join our team.

Believe passionately in equality?

Then this might be the perfect role for you.

To receive an application pack, please email us at:

[krecruit@advocacypartners.org](mailto:krecruit@advocacypartners.org) or tel: 020 3355 8846.

**Closing date:** 23 June 2008.

We especially encourage applications from people with disabilities.

Charity no. 802342



Kent Fire & Rescue Service

## Engineering Vehicle Technician (Defect & Service)

Ashford Fire Station, Henwood

**Grade 5: £22,136.00 - £25,414.00 gross per annum, plus an annual retaining fee and a monthly communications allowance**

**Full time - 37 hours per week**

**VR: 000632**

Kent Fire and Rescue Service are seeking to appoint a Defect/Service Engineering Technician to join their team based at the Ashford Fire Station workshop.

The successful applicant will provide maintenance service and defect repairs to the Authority's LGV, light vehicles and ancillary equipment which consists of Fire Appliances, Height Vehicles and Hydraulic Rescue Equipment.

It is essential that the applicant holds a full LGV licence and has experience of working on LGV vehicles with a good working knowledge of hydraulics and electrics. Product training will be provided as and when required.

The ideal candidate will be self-motivated, reliable and confident to work alone whilst still remaining part of the Engineering team. The post-holder will be required to attend the Authority's on-call duty rota as and when required, for which a retaining fee will be offered.

For an application form and job description please write to the Human Resources Section, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Service Headquarters, Straw Mill Hill, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6XB quoting vacancy reference number 000632. Alternatively you may wish to send and email to:

[recruitment.hr@kent.fire-uk.org](mailto:recruitment.hr@kent.fire-uk.org)

Further information can be found on our website at [www.kent.fire-uk.org](http://www.kent.fire-uk.org)

**Closing date:** 12 June 2008

[www.kent.fire-uk.org](http://www.kent.fire-uk.org)

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THE WILDERNESSE SCHOOL  
Seal Hollow Road, Sevenoaks

Following the retirement of a number of staff and a re-organisation of responsibilities, The Wildernes School requires the following teachers for September 2008.

### • Teacher of Mathematics

(the ability to offer Business Studies is an advantage)

### • Teacher of ICT

### • Teacher of Science

### • Teacher of English

### • Teacher of Music (part-time)

*These posts would be suitable for an NQT/GTP.*

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff are required to complete CRB checks before taking up post.

For an application form and further details please contact the school office on  
**Tel. 01732 454617 Fax. 01732 453675**  
**E-mail: office@wildernesse.kent.sch.uk**

*Closing date: Friday 20 June 2008*

## outlookfostering services ltd

Looking after the children so as adults, they can look after themselves

Outstanding OFSTED report

### Qualified Social Worker Vacancy for Kent area

Salary £25 - £29k depending on experience, plus Company Car.

- If your practice is to put the Looked After Child's welfare central to all decision making
- If you enjoy group work as well as 1-1 with Looked After Children and Birth Children
- If you would enjoy advising, guiding and supporting a small case load of Foster Carers
- If you are creative and innovative in your thinking and practice, and would like to play an important role in the positive development of Outlook
- If you would enjoy quality supervision and great teamwork

THEN We would like to hear from you!

Visit our website on [www.outlookfostering.co.uk](http://www.outlookfostering.co.uk) for more information about the Agency

For an informal discussion in the first instance, ring Carole Carter (Head of Services) or Mike Kearns (Registered Manager), on 01233 610661

## Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.

The Fuji Seal Group is the only shrink sleeve manufacturer offering a complete single source solution utilising its network of manufacturing operations in the UK, Netherlands, USA, Asia, France, Poland and Japan. Fuji Seal has been the main catalyst in developing and creating a rapidly expanding international market for shrink sleeves and has demonstrated its unrivalled supremacy in creativity and innovation. We are currently recruiting for the following vacancies:

### MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN

Duties will include preventative and breakdown maintenance, improvements and new installations. Individual responsibility for ensuring machines operate to appropriate quality specifications. Working an 8 hour rolling shift pattern (6am-2pm, 2pm-10pm, 10pm-6am) Monday - Friday plus callout requirement. The following qualifications are appropriate, but alternatives may be acceptable. Apprenticeship served Maintenance Electrician, City & Guilds or BTEC (ONC) in Electrical Engineering, 17th Edition Wiring regulation.

### MIS ASSISTANT

Maintenance of computer network in UK including maintenance of PCs, Macs, printers and control of all IT consumables. Responsibilities to include installing computers, keeping virus protection up to date, ensuring proper backups are kept and keeping an up to date inventory of IT hardware and software to ensure full compliance with FAST membership criteria. Support the European operation when required. A Level Information Technology or equivalent qualification required.

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits, including: competitive salary, generous holiday entitlement, contributory pension scheme, life assurance, subsidised staff canteen and subsidised sports & social club.

To apply for any of the above positions, please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham Kent ME8 0RJ with a covering letter indicating which position you are applying for or alternately you can email to: [jobs@uk.fujiseal.com](mailto:jobs@uk.fujiseal.com)

Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer.

Closing date: 13th June 2008

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

### Customer Support Assistants

£13,619 - £15,440 p.a.

Our Library Service has a lot more to offer than just books. With reading groups, talks and exhibitions, it offers a range of activities for every age group - from Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions to internet classes for older people. To deliver all this, we need the right people serving our customers. While relevant experience would come in handy, it isn't essential - it's much more important that you're friendly, enthusiastic and approachable.

Gravesend  
9th July 2008

Margate  
10th July 2008

Dover  
10th July 2008

Tunbridge Wells  
10th July 2008

We offer good training and development opportunities, and the chance to work at locations across our area. We've got mobile facilities and services, as well as

If you'd like to find out more, we're hosting Open Days at four different libraries across our area. Book a 20-minute slot, and we'll give you a tour of the library and a mini preliminary interview.

To book your slot or to find out more, please call 01622 696517 quoting Open Day.



A great place to work.  
Our services aren't the same,  
so neither are our people.

## Service Advisor

We have a vacancy in our busy service reception for an experienced, reliable and focused Sales Advisor capable of maintaining the goodwill of our customers and building future growth for the business by fulfilling 100% of our customer's expectations.

A sound knowledge of computerised point of sale programmes preferably Kerridge Autoline and 1 Link would be an advantage.

The successful applicant will be of smart appearance, possess excellent time management skills, an enthusiastic attitude and an aptitude for selling.

We offer a competitive salary according to experience and proven ability within a friendly environment.

Applications in writing please to: The General Manager, Sherlodge Garage, 26 Hoath Lane, Wimborne, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW.

Email: [john.devine@sherlodgegarage.skoda.co.uk](mailto:john.devine@sherlodgegarage.skoda.co.uk)



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Due to an increasing order book we are looking for the following personnel:

### Design Engineers

(Experience in 3D Modeling an advantage)

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### Toolmakers • Millers

### Turners • Sheet Metal Workers

Please send your CV or telephone:

Mr Glyn Jones - Aerospace Tooling Ltd,  
Courtney Road, Hoath Way,  
Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RZ

Tel: 01634 233216 Fax: 01634 364696  
Email: [g.jones@aerospace-tooling.co.uk](mailto:g.jones@aerospace-tooling.co.uk)

## Gravesend Grammar School for Girls

A Specialist Science College



Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE  
Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195

Website: [www.gsgs.org.uk](http://www.gsgs.org.uk)

Email: [enquiries@gsgs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gsgs.org.uk)



## TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Required from September 2008  
Main Professional Grade

This is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic and committed teacher of English to join this very successful 11-18 selective girls' school with boys in the Sixth Form. We are looking to appoint a suitably qualified colleague or a Newly Qualified Teacher to teach English at all levels up to A' Level. An ability to teach Drama/Media Studies would be desirable.

The School has a high profile for achievement both locally and nationally. There is also plenty of scope to be involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

Academic standards are exceptionally high (Ofsted 2008) and the School has acquired Investor in People and Investor in Careers status. We were identified as one of the particularly successful schools in the HMI Chief Inspector's Report for 2002-03 and we have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004.

Gravesend Grammar School for Girls is situated on a pleasant secluded site close to the town centre. Gravesend itself is within easy reach of London.

Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher's Personal Assistant, Mrs M Tong Ralphs. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than

Wednesday 18th June 2008

This is a Non Smoking school.

Leading Newspaper and Magazine Wholesaler  
Dawson News require a



## MAGAZINE ACCOUNT HANDLER

### Main Purpose of the job

Effective management of a portfolio of publisher accounts.

### The role includes the following key tasks: -

- Effective use of order regulation procedures, maximising sales whilst achieving unsold targets and availability
- Application of multiple commitments
- Provide first point of contact for selected publishers
- Liaise with other internal departments
- Provision of relevant information to Line Manager
- Build and maintain strong working relationships with both publishers and retailers

### The Successful applicant should possess the following attributes: -

- Team Player
- Good Communicator/telephone manner
- Able to work on own initiative
- Good knowledge of the wholesale process (although training will be given)
- Able to cope under pressure
- Basic PC skills (word and excel)

This is a fixed term contract of 18 - 20 months. 37.5 hours per week Monday to Friday. This position will be based at Rochester.

Salary to be negotiated subject to experience.

If you wish to apply for this position then please write enclosing a CV to: Lynn Barnes (Magazine Sales Manager), Dawson News, Europa Unit 1/2 Trident Close, Medway City Estate, Rochester, Kent ME2 4ER.  
Email: [csrochester@dawsonnews.co.uk](mailto:csrochester@dawsonnews.co.uk)  
Closing date for applications is: Friday 13th June 2008.



## THE KENT AUTISTIC TRUST

The Kent Autistic Trust is a very well respected specialist provider of services for people across the spectrum of Autism. It is an innovative charity providing residential care, day activity services and support. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.

This is an exciting new project assisting Adults with Autism / Aspergers syndrome to manage their own lives in their own homes. The small development will provide 5 independent living flats with communal garden in a popular area in Chatham.

You will be supporting individuals with their health needs, accessing the community, budgeting, independent living skills, lifestyle choices, work / college placements, tenancy issues and advocacy.

## TEAM LEADER

Salary from £16,522 to £18,948 per annum dependant on qualifications. NVQ III desirable. Sleep-ins may be required

- Do you possess some experience of working within the field of learning disabilities/Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or challenging behaviour?
- Do you have British Sign Language Level 1 or 2?
- Are you able to use your initiative and have the flexibility to work as part of a team and on your own?

If you are the right candidate, the Trust will help you to gain NVQ qualifications in care as a valuable recognition of your work. Our respect for your skills and knowledge will be evident in the trust which will be placed on you and the investment we will make in your continuing professional development.

Successful candidates will also enjoy the following benefits:

- Comprehensive induction training
- 33 days annual leave
- Generous overtime and bank holiday rates

For an informal chat or to make an appointment to view the project prior to application please contact Ruth Bray Independent Living Manager on 01634 405168 or email: [rbray@kentautistic.com](mailto:rbray@kentautistic.com)

To request an application pack please call personnel on 01634 405168 or download from [www.kentautistic.com](http://www.kentautistic.com)

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from a wide section of the community. Applicants who have dyslexia and/or poor writing and reading skills can contact us to discuss any specific concerns. All applicants who are offered employment will be subject to a criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau.

Closing Date: 30th June 2008

Medway Campus

**WEB PROJECT LEADER**

Ref: 00987/K3

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**Co-ordinator Mathematics** Ref: 08/61  
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**Lecturer in Horticulture and Land Based** Ref: 08/84  
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum. One year fixed term or until 31 August 2009.

**Lecturer in Computer Games and Interactive Media** Ref: 08/54  
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

**Lecturer Animal Care & Land Based** Ref: 01/144  
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

**Trainer Demonstrator Animal Care** Ref: TD13  
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum.

Please note the above two posts would be considered as a combined full time post.

**Learning Support Independent Living & Leisure Skills** Ref: 08/81 & 08/82  
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**Learning and Behaviour Support Assistant** Ref: 08/83  
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**Student Activities Assistant** Ref: 02/137  
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**Faculty Administrator Sciences, Humanities and Languages** Ref: 06/160  
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**Publications & Design Officer** Ref: 08/25  
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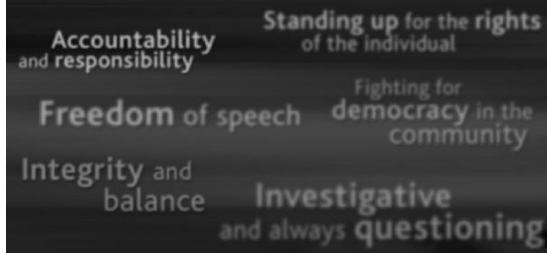
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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Men better at saving but ISAs undervalued

MEN are putting more cash into savings accounts than women, according to new research from Yorkshire Building Society, which has branches in Canterbury and Chatham.

The statistics show that 62 per cent of people have at least £1,000 in a savings account and that men were 50 per cent more likely than women to have such an account.

However, the research also highlighted that more than a third of the people with more than £1,000 in savings don't have a tax-free ISA – individual savings account.

This means that there could be around 15 million people in the UK paying more money to the taxman than they should.

### Businesses stay strong

MANUFACTURERS and retailers in the South East are being warned to remain vigilant and protect themselves against the credit crunch, despite a fall in the overall number of firms going into administration.

The Forum of Private Business, which has many members in the county, says that according to accountancy firm Deloitte, 282 businesses in London and the South East went into administration in the first quarter of 2008, compared to 288 in the same period of 2007.

Matt Goodman, the forum's policy representative, said: "Deloitte's figures represent how strong and resilient small businesses can be in the face of a tough economic climate."

### Medway – focus of day

A RECENT one-day symposium – entitled Medway Lives, Gateway Futures: History, Community and Place – brought together more than 60 academics, policymakers and community group representatives for a series of talks and discussions.

The event was staged at the University of Kent's Medway campus in Chatham Maritime.

Topics under review included the legacy of industrialisation, regeneration and construction work, religion in everyday life and traveller communities.

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 A new £1.6 million resource centre in Sittingbourne aims to improve skills shortages in science

# It's personal - firms at risk because they don't have insurance

A STAGGERING one third of small enterprises in the South East are putting everything at risk – their business, employees and customers – by operating without any business insurance, according to new research.

If misfortune were to strike up to 25,500 of the region's 725,000 small businesses owners could be risking their homes by operating without insurance because they have personal guarantees against their business.

The nationwide survey of firms employing up to fifty people, carried out by OnePoll for Insurantz.com, uncovered a worrying attitude towards insurance.

In the South East, more than one in ten respondents were unsure whether they were insured and 29 per cent admitted to having little or no idea what their policy covers.

George Derbyshire, chief executive of the National Federation of Enterprise Agencies, said: "I am shocked by the results of this survey. Running a business is all about risk-taking, but we would always advocate a managed and informed approach to risk.

"Sensible entrepreneurs discuss the issues with their advisers in the knowledge that getting this wrong can be disastrous in human, financial and legal terms."

A quarter of small businesses in the South East could also face legal action as they were unaware that temporary workers and sub-contractors must be covered under statutory employers' liability insurance.

Uncovered companies risk heavy fines of up to £2,500 a day by failing to provide cover.

Last year there were more than 105,000 employer's liability personal injury claims.

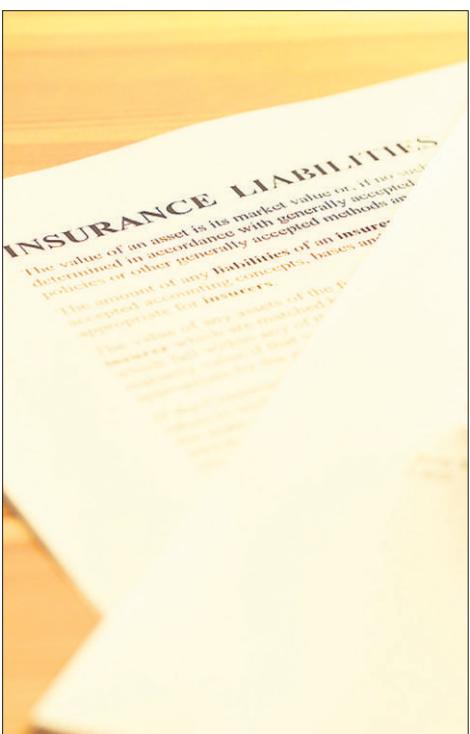
Failure to adequately insure is put down to the restrictive red tape which causes small businesses to spend hours filling in forms.

A third of respondents to the survey said arranging business insurance was too time-consuming and overly complicated, and this has pushed it very low in some people's priorities.

**THE LAW:** Your employer is responsible for your health and safety while you are at work. If you are injured as a result of an accident at work, or become ill as a result of your work, and if you believe your employer is responsible, you may seek compensation.

To make sure that your employer can pay the compensation they must take out an insurance policy. This is an employers' liability insurance. Employers' liability insurance will provide compensation for injuries or illness caused on or off site.

Any injuries or illness relating to motor accidents which occur as a result of your employment may be covered separately by your employer's motor insurance.



**LIABILITY:** One third of small firms does not have business insurance



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## Racer aiming to make Smart move

SCOTT Smart will be back in action in the British Superbike Championship this Sunday in the fifth round of the series at Snetterton.

The Maidstone rider was left disappointed as a mechanical failure on the bike saw him fall down the field last time out at Donington Park after starting sixth on the grid.

Smart will be hoping to build on his 12th position in the championship standings.

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Kent motorsport team Jota Sport prepare for 24-hour Le Mans event

# Mote unbeaten in five thanks to accurate Aukett

THE MOTE are still unbeaten this season despite only setting a total of 138 in a tight victory against Whitstable.

The side have won all their matches so far and now have an eight point lead at the top of Kent League Division One.

The home side were forced to work hard as their opening batsmen of Andrew Barr and Luke Newton were dismissed for just seven runs. Captain Glen Aukett and James Marriott steamed the ship by putting on 60 runs between them.

Accurate bowling from Whitstable prevented The Mote from setting a high score and were all out with three overs remaining for just 138.

## CRICKET

■ BY TOM HOWARD

Aukett was once again the hero as his four wickets helped bowl Whitstable out for just 117.

Max Campbell was the only batsmen who showed some resistance, with a top score for the visitors of 24, before falling to the bowling of Aukett.

Laurence Waters and Stefan Pichowski claimed two wickets, with Kenny George and Kym Daley picking up one each.

The Mote will be looking to preserve their 100 per cent record when they take on struggling Sibton Park this Saturday.



**UNBEATEN:** The Mote took their winning streak to five matches after beating Whitstable

## Kent League Division One

The Mote CC - 1st XI v Whitstable CC - 1st XI

### The Mote

	Runs
Andrew Barr b Mills	0
Luke Newton ct Zanotti b Mills	7
Chris Back cdb Mills	0
Glen Aukett ct Zanotti b Loader	20
James Marriott b Loader	44
Nathan Chapman cdb Hardy	21
Laurence Waters ct Hardy b Mills	13
Stefan Pichowski b Loader	14
Kym Daley b Chittin	5
Alex Fordham not out	5
Kenny George lwb b Mills	0
Extras (1lb 5w 3nb)	9
Total (all out, 47 overs)	138

### Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
James Mills	9	0	28	5
Simon Chittin	8	2	17	1
James Loader	15	1	46	3
Max Campbell	7	1	18	0
Duncan Hardy	8	0	28	1

### Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Kym Daley	15	4	38	1
Kenny George	5	1	17	1
Glen Aukett	15	4	28	4
Laurence Waters	74	2	14	2
Stefan Pichowski	7	2	16	2

## Kent League Division One - 2nd XI

Hayes 2nd XI  
v The Mote 2nd XI

THE Mote 2nd XI continued their impressive start to the season with five-wicket win against Hayes, moving them up to third in the league.

The home side were bowled out for 152, with the best figures going to Ed De Lucy with 2-15 and Richard Usher who bagged three wickets.

It was the partnership of De Lucy and Andrew Barr that proved the difference as they both scored 40 to put The Mote in a commanding position. They surpassed the total with five wickets and two overs to spare.

## Kent Feeder League - 1C

Highways CC - 1st XI  
v Petts Wood CC - 1st XI

JANAKA Kerr was just ten runs off scoring a century as Highways smashed Petts Wood to win by 87 runs.

Highways were bowled out for a commanding total of 227, with Kerr top scoring with 90 and Hemang Moddy nearly clinching a half century with 48.

Despite a five-wicket haul from Geoff Attaway, Highways never looked like being beaten as none of the Petts Wood batsmen could come to terms with their bowling attack.

The victory sends Highways to second in the league behind runaway leaders Sidcup.

## Highways

	Runs
Mark Whetren	ct Waters b De Lucy
O'Neill Blake	ct Rowe
Tanjeen Chowdhury	ct De Lucy b Usher
Danny Phillips	run out Rowe
Greg Brown	ct De Lucy
Neil Chisholm	ct Rowe
David Jewiss	ct Waters b Dunk
Colin Conduffrey	ct Rowe b Dunk
Stuart Eddicott	b Usher
James Clarke	lwb b Usher
Anthony Sharpe	not out
Extras (3lb 6lb 4w 13)	
Total (all out, 49.5 overs)	152

### Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Dane Smith	7	1	28	0
Danny Rowe	12.5	1	54	2
Richard Usher	12	3	25	3
Ed De Lucy	15	8	15	2
Jason Dunk	3	0	21	2

## The Mote

	Runs
Simon Warley	ct Phillips b Eddicott
Matthew White	ct Phillips b Sharpe
Ed De Lucy	ct Phillips b Chisholm
Andrew Barr	not out
Lawrence Freehorn	b Sharpe
Jason Dunk	not out
Howard Waters	did not bat
Danny Rowe	did not bat
Dane Smith	did not bat
Richard Usher	did not bat
Chris Coles	did not bat
Extras (8b 6lb 5w 19)	
Total (5 wickets, 48.3 overs)	153

### Bowlers

	0	M	R	W
Stuart Eddicott	14.3	6	48	1
James Clarke	5	1	15	0
David Jewiss	4	2	16	0
Anthony Sharpe	15	6	33	2
Neil Chisholm	10	2	27	1

## Petts Wood

Mark Desborough b Dave

Sanjaya Ranasinghe ct Sandhub Sandhu

Andy Howard ct Sandhub Sandhu

David Buttery not out

Ian Stewart b Patel

Joe Cook run out Mander

Peter Russell ct Raja b Raja

Geoff Attaway not out

Simon Rooney did not bat

David Rutter did not bat

Steve Sanford did not bat

Extras (4lb 12w 7nb) 23

Total (6 wickets, 47.5 overs) 140

Bowlers

Steve Sandhu 10 0 48 2

Amit Dave 12 3 30 1

Amanullah 11 5 10 0

Kishan Patel 9 1 21 1

Hemang Moddy 2 0 9 0

Azar Raja 3 0 16 1

# Future looks bright, says Stones chief

## FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

MAIDSTONE United chairman Paul Bowden-Brown believes the team are in a much better position in comparison to last season.

Since surviving the dreaded drop from the Ryman Premier League after beating Folkestone Invicta on the last day of the season, managers Alan Walker and Lloyd Hume have been busy acquiring players.

Already the club have secured the services of Andy Walker, Roland Edge, Kevin Watson and Ian Cox. The former Margate duo of Jay Saunders and James Pinnock have also put pen to paper and the Stones chief expects more to follow.

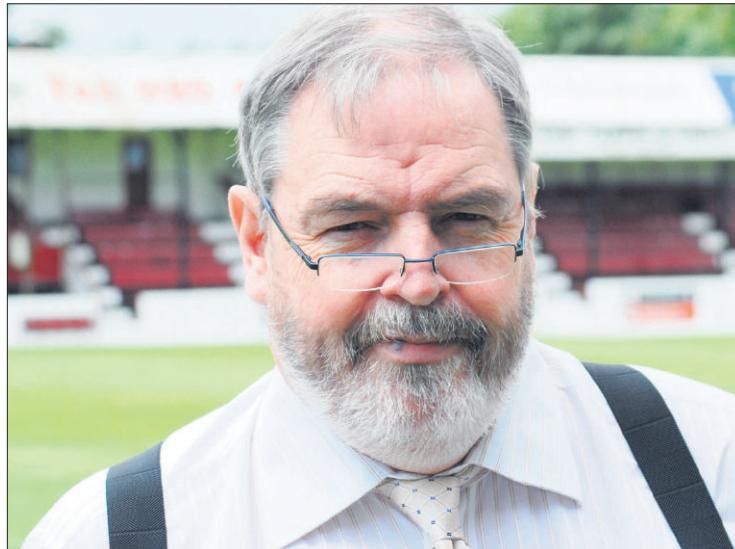
### Faith

Bowden-Brown told Yourmaidstone: "I am very happy with the progress we have made so far with the players we have brought in."

"I have got total faith in the managers in Lloyd and Alan for the new season. We can never say never, but I feel that the preparations we have made will mean that we will not be in a position like we were in at the end of last season."

Despite the six new signings, Bowden-Brown feels the club needs to replace striker Mo Takaloa, who joined Ramsgate last month.

He said: "I think it is well documented that Alan and Lloyd are looking for another striker, but the problem at this point of the season, is



**BRIGHT FUTURE:** Maidstone United chairman Paul Bowden-Brown is looking forward to the beginning of the new season

players are moving all over the place. It is a bit of merry-go-round which can be tough to deal with as a manager.

"However, we must not forget about the players that have left the club – they have got us in the position we are in today."

Maidstone have finalised their Football

Foundation community club bid and are due to hand it to the FA.

If successful, the club stands to receive a sum of money which will be used to help finance the construction of their new ground at James Whatman Way. It is unlikely that a decision will be made before the start of the new season.

## New floodlight queries delay running track

## ATHLETICS

MEDWAY & Maidstone Athletics club's proposed new facility has been delayed once again after an illness to a key club official prevented them from presenting their case at the planning meeting last week.

The project, planned by the athletics club and Sutton Valence School, has been held up several times in the past six months and they face another frustrating wait.

A floodlit 400-metre all-weather track is part of the plans on the grounds of the school, along with facilities for all field events including long jump, javelin, hammer and high jump.

However, residents of the Sutton Valence area have aired their views over the proposal to construct floodlights at the site, which forced the track to be redesigned earlier this year.

If planning permission is granted this month at the newly-arranged meeting with Maidstone council, the facility could be up and running inside 16 weeks. Maidstone has never had a permanent athletics facility, which means athletes from



**HALTED:** Medway & Maidstone Athletics Club runners are forced to wait yet again

the area have to travel to the Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford or the Deangate track at Hoo.

Adrian Lowther of Medway & Maidstone Athletics Club said: "For the sake of going to the meeting and having some questions left unanswered we have decided to postpone the meeting for three or four weeks."

It is hoped the new facility will attract more people from the town to get involved in athletics.

Their case for planning permission will now be heard on June 26.

## Reeves bitten by the Isle of Man TT bug

## SIDECARS

SIDECAR ace Tim Reeves has confirmed he will be racing in next year's Isle of Man TT after securing the best finish by a rookie in the event for 30 years.

Reeves and passenger Patrick Farrance secured third place in race one and a sixth-place finish in last Wednesday's second race on the 37.7-mile course.

The Wateringbury-based rider is already preparing for a second assault on the island next year and is now looking for faster bike.

Reeves told Yourmaidstone: "I will definitely be competing in next year's event without doubt and I hope we will be able to get a faster bike."

"I have already sold my machine so I am looking to a new bike which we can put our year of experience into for 2009."

"In the second race we were flying, but the pace of the bike cost us."

"If we could have squeezed another one mile an hour out of the machine in our average speed times, we would have been fighting right at the sharp end."

The three-time world champion



**PREPARING:** Preparing: Tim Reeves cannot wait for next year's Isle of Man TT

on shocked both fellow competitors and spectators with his pace on the TT course by setting the fastest ever lap by a rookie.

He said: "There were a lot of doubters when we announced our entry into the event and we have proved them all wrong."

"Many people said that because we are used to riding a faster bike on race circuits instead of roads, that we would struggle, but we showed them."



**UNBEATEN:** Neil Dexter hit 101 against Somerset

## CRICKET

## Impressive ton-up Dexter keeps cool

KENT Spitfires are through to the semi-final of the Friends Provident Trophy where they will play holders Durham Dynamos after holding their nerve in a tense 37-run win over Somerset Sabres. Rob Key's side were indebted to 23-year-old Neil Dexter's unbeaten 101 and some excellent bowling at the death from Pakistani all-rounders Yasir Arafat and Azhar Mahmood.

Key, who hit a fluent 73 for the Spitfires in a stand of 104 with Dexter, was delighted with the young batsman's attitude despite suffering a slow start after coming in at the last minute for Martin van Jaarsveld.

He said: "In one-day cricket there's nothing worse than not having the scoreboard ticking over. He found it hard to get going and that's the time when a lot of players would panic and throw their wicket away."

"The impressive thing about his innings was he managed to put it to the back of his mind and accelerate. To get 100 at almost a run-a-ball after his start is some achievement."

The Kent skipper is now looking forward to an entertaining clash at Durham's Riverside Ground on either July 4 or 5.

He said: "They are a decent side and the defending champions, but we won the Twenty20 last year and we seem to play our at best in the knock-out stages."

"Winning some silverware gives us that extra bit of confidence but it all depends what happens on the day and it will be a pretty tough fixture."

While the Spitfires are gearing up for the semi-final, they have been preparing for the defence of their Twenty20 crown which starts with a game against old adversaries Sussex at the St Lawrence Ground.

With the announcement that the winner of this year's competition will be entered into the inaugural Champions League, the Spitfires will be looking to make it to the final day again at the Rose Bowl on July 26.

Play starts at 5.40pm. For updates visit [www.yourashford.co.uk](http://www.yourashford.co.uk).

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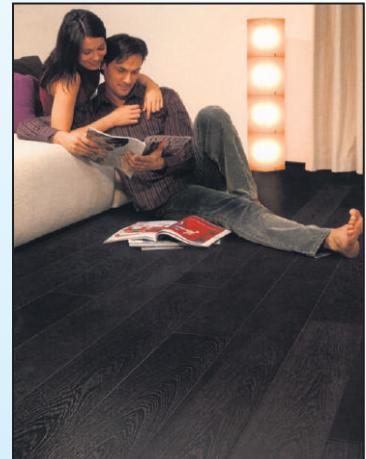
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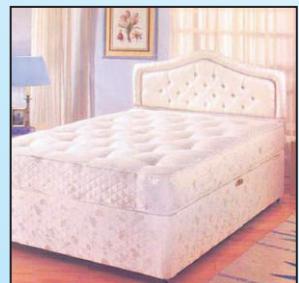


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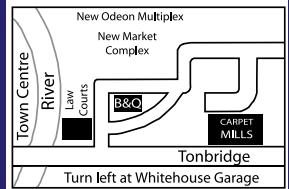


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